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EXTRACTS

FROM

THE COUNCIL REGISTER

OF THE

BURGH OF ABERDEEN.

1570—1625.

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Aberdeen

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE

THE EDITOR'S PREFACE, ... vii

CONTENTS, ... xliii

EXTRACTS FROM THE COUNCIL REGISTER OF THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN, ... 1

INDEX, ... 397

The Editor's Preface.

THE Selections from the Registers of the Burgh of Aberdeen, printed in the present volume, extend from the early part of the reign of King James the Sixth to its conclusion.

The plan of editing it requires no explanation, being in all points the same as that adopted in preparing the first volume of these Extracts, and it only remains to advert to some of the more picturesque features of the selection, and to the illustrations of history and social progress which it may be supposed to afford.

The time embraced in the volume was one of change and stirring incident, and the impressions which these produced, as well as the tone of feeling which they served to realize in the minds of the Burgesses of Aberdeen, may enable us to judge of their effects on the country in general.

A very apt illustration of the insecurity which prevailed, and which at times rendered it doubtful to whom allegiance was really due, meets us nearly at the commencement of the volume. The burgh had a natural connection with the great house of Huntly, which for two centuries had exercised a most powerful influence

over a large district of the north of Scotland, but which in the reign of Queen Mary had been totally overthrown. For two years the late Earl had been Provost of the burgh, and about a century before that time mutual letters or bonds of manrent passed between the head of this noble house and the burgh, binding themselves to mutual assistance. It was asserted by the vanquished party that the citizens took part with the Gordons at the Battle of the Crabstane in 1571, but the statement seems unfounded. A few years afterwards, the town gave for the support of the Earl (in whose person the family was restored) a sum of 600 merks; but the special reason assigned for the grant is the removal of his "suldeouris and men of weir out of this burght and boundis thairof." However, their attachment to this family, real or supposed, formed a useful pretext to the greedy Regent Morton for exacting a large fine from the citizens.

The Regent and Lords of Privy Council were present in the burgh at the time of the Justice air in 1574, and at a meeting of the townsmen called for the purpose, and held in St. Peter's Aisle of their Parish Church, it was explained by the Provost, "quhow that my Lord Regent's Grace, be sinister and wrang informatioune of sum invyous personis, baris indignatioune at this burght and inhabitantis thairof, allegeand that thai haf nocht done thair dewetie and thankfull seruice to our Souerane Lord the Kingis Grace, induring the tyme of the lait truble and frequent tumult that was in this realme amongis the nobilite and lieges thairof," and therefore meant to pursue them for a large fine in the present air. (p. 11.) The town at once agreed to give their bond of fidelity to the King and his Regent, and to pay a reasonable tax on getting a discharge of all past crimes. One of the bonds which the town granted narrates "their proceedings in the resetting, assisting, contributioun, and stent making witht George, Erll of Huntly, Adam Gordoun of Auchindoun, his brother, and thair complices," during the time of

their late rebellion; and the discharge which the Regent granted to the burgh releases them of the consequences of these proceedings, and of all other crimes (with the exceptions therein enumerated, among which is the crime of witchcraft), but it cost them 4000 merks. (p. 19.)

There are various allusions to the injuries which the inhabitants sustained from the conflicts of "clannit men." Thus they refer to the great number of people from the country, who congregate in the town about the terms of Martinmas and Whitsunday, "sum to ressaue in thair dettis, vtheris to vplift or giwe out siluer on proffit, and mak thair securities," and after arranging these "lesum effaris," that they having deadly feuds unreconciled, and private quarrells, drew themselves into parties, and pursued each other with arms, within the burgh, and, on being charged by the Magistrates to desist, "they proudlie and contemnandlie hawe disobeyit the command of the Magistrattis, being clannit men of gryt freynschip;" and the Magistrates, in attempting to quell these tumults, had often been in great danger and peril, and some of them hurt and wounded. (p. 249.) With the view of putting a stop to these disorders, the Magistrates proposed to procure letters from the Privy Council, charging the authors of them to desist—a remedy which we may undoubtedly presume to have been quite insufficient for such a purpose.

A few years afterwards, the Magistrates complain of another set of difficulties, which proceeded from the "clannit men;" inasmuch as they often received charges to apprehend and put them in ward, "quhilkis thay are not hable to put to executioun, be reasoun of the gryitnes and power of the pairties;" they therefore agreed to request the Privy Council that they might only be required to give their concurrence in such acts to the Sheriff of the Shire. (p. 294.)

Occasionally we find a burgess accused of purchasing lordship against the Burgh by obtaining the assistance of some of the country

lairds in his affairs. This was regarded as a very heinous crime, as indeed it was, seeing that every burgess, by his oath at admission, became bound "na lordschip to purchis in contrair the libertie of this Brughe." And thus, when the Duke of Lennox was admitted a burgess, while they resolved to secure his purity and orthodoxy in religious matters, by requiring him to forsake the "Romane religioun, called Papystrie," the Magistrates at the same time made him swear that he "suld vsurp nor purcheis na lordschip contrar the fredom of the Burght." (p. 106.)

In former times of trouble and danger, the Charters of the Burgh were occasionally sent to the church as a sanctuary. But now the fortress, which, amid the commotions of the succeeding century, afforded a temporary shelter to the regalia of Scotland, was selected for the safety of the muniments of the town. It was "thocht expedient to put the townis euidentis in ferme securetye and keiping in Dunnottar for a seassoune, quhill thai think expedient, for eschewing of apperand danger in this troublouss tyme." (p. 6.)

The period was one of much religious excitement and change, and there will be found scattered illustrations of the popular feeling on this subject, as well as of the breaking up of ancient associations.

In former times, the burgesses had been exceedingly liberal in the founding and endowing of Chaplainries in the parish church, a practice which indeed had existed till a time comparatively recent. In 1575, there were only six Chaplains alive "of the queyr and College of the said burgh," who resigned into the hands of the Provost all their lands and other property, reserving their own liferent; and they thereafter ratified their resignation, and agreed that the funds should be applied "to the support and vphald of Sanct Thomas Hospitale, fundit within this burght, besyd thair parroche kirk." (p. 8.) The Magistrates had, on a previous

occasion, assumed that they had right to the property belonging to these Chaplainries, as patrons of the same, and had resolved to apply the revenue thereof for the upholding of their parish church. They thought it better afterwards to get their rights ratified by the existing Chaplains, perhaps on a principle which was not unfrequently acted on at the time, and which very forcibly exhibits the feeling of insecurity and doubt which prevailed as to the stability of the existing order of things; for in the sale of church lands after the Reformation, it is believed that it was by no means unusual to receive charters as well from the former owners as from those who had supplanted them and were now in possession. The purchasers were thus prepared either for a continuance of the new system or for a relapse into the old one.* Where the patronage of the Chaplainry remained with the heirs of the founder, they appear, in many cases, to have applied the revenues for their own private purposes. Thus, in 1592, we find reference made to the founders of altarages within the parish church, who, as patrons, had given divers annual rents to the same, "for idolatrous service to be maid be preistis for thame, thair parentis, and successouris," and who now not only applied these revenues to their own use, but also usurped the privilege of burial-place within the Church, where the altar at which these services had been performed had stood, without payment of any dues therefor, or of any contribution for maintenance of the Church, which gave occasion to these

* Robert Crichton was Bishop of Dunkeld at the time of the Reformation. In 1571 the See is declared to be void through Bishop Robert's forfeiture. (Keith's Cat. of Scott. Bishops, p. 96.) Among the writs of the Barony of Cluny, in Perthshire, which belonged to the Bishop of Dunkeld, and which is now the property of the Earl of Airlie, are to be found charters, granted in 1584, by Robert, Bishop of Dunkeld, with consent of his Chapter, just as if no change or forfeiture had happened. James Paton, his successor in the See, had been granting charters of various parts of the barony since 1576. Among the deeds of this barony, is a procuratory of resignation, by Mr. James Creichtoun, Fiar of Cluny, with consent of Mr. Robert Creichtoun of Eliok, his father, for resigning the same into the hands of the Bishop of Dunkeld, dated 20th June, 1570. The deed is signed and sealed by the parties, and the signature of the "admirable" Crichton gives a very favourable impression of his acquirements in the art of writing.

who had no foundations, to put up their arms upon various pillars of the said kirk, and other places of the same. An ordinance was therefore made, requiring such patrons either to mortify the revenues of the altars for upholding of the parish church, or sustentation of the Ministers, or some other godly uses, or else to pay for their burial places as others do; and that no arms should hereafter be put up anywhere in the church, except in windows, without licence from the Magistrates. (p. 78.) In 1596, a resignation was made by Thomas Murray, burgess, in favour of the Magistrates, of all right which he had to the altarage and chaplainry of St. Salvator, founded by his predecessors in St. Nicholas Church, and of the patronage and property thereof to be applied by them, *ad pios usus*, as they should think fit. (p. 146.) This privilege of sepulture within the church seems to have been highly valued; so much so, that complaints occur "of the desyr and supplicatioun of dyuers personis, quha desyris the bodeis of thair departit friendis to be bureit in the said kirk, swa that threw the multitude of deid bodies buriet thairin, few places is to be fund thairintill but grein grauis, albeit the kirk yard be ane honorabill place of burial, gif thai wald content thairwitht." (p. 55)

In the beginning of the succeeding century, the existence of the feeling may still be seen. (p. 226.)

A good deal of the attention of the Magistrates was still devoted to the maintenance of orthodoxy, and the uprooting of superstitious practices. They accordingly used much exertion to procure the regular attendance of the citizens at church to hear sermons, although the practice seems to have been by no means popular, and to have required the exaction of penalties to enforce compliance. Thus, in 1584, all masters of households are required, under a penalty, to repair to the parish church, "and keip and obserue the sermones and prechingis on the oulk dayis, towit, Tuysday and Thurisday, for hearing of the word of God and Christis euangell

trewlie prechit." (p. 54.) This ordinance did not meet with much success, for in the course of four years afterwards there are renewed complaints of "a great numer of the inhabitantis professing Chryst, as he is now offerit be the preching of the evangell, throch wilful re-maining from thair paroche kirk in tyme of preching and prayeris, als well on the Sabbotht day as on the oulk day, and be gaming and playing, passing to tavernis and ailhousis, using the tred of merchandice and handie labour in time of sermon on the oulk day, contrar to the custume of reformit kirkis and weill governit commoun weillis of this realme," whereupon the former ordinance is renewed under like penalties. (p. 62.)

About ten years afterwards new statutes are set down for the attendance at church. By these, the wives of burgesses are not to be allowed henceforth to sit "in the side aisles nor behind pillers, but in the middle of the church that thay may the mair easilie sie and hear the delyverer and preicher of the word." Moreover, the wives of burgesses are to have decent cloaks when they come to church, instead of plaids as heretofore, and every one shall bring a stool, according to the usages of all reformed boroughs and congregations of the realm. (p. 167.) In 1617, regrets are expressed that these various statutes had not taken full execution "throu iniquitie of time." They are therefore re-enacted, and the householders ordained to attend sermons as formerly under the usual penalties; and to meet the case of those who repaired to church on week days for avoiding the penalties, but did not remain till the service was concluded, they were ordained not only to keep the sermons, but also "not to depairt out of the kirk thairfra vnto the end thairof." (p. 354.)

We find also various ordinances against markets on Sunday during the time of sermon, (p. 38.) and "aganis the playeris in the Linkis and at the kyittis during the time of the sermones, as well as against sweraris and blasphemaris of Goddis holie name." (p. 167.)

With the view of securing the better observance of Sunday, it was resolved, in conformity with a recent act of parliament, to set aside the Monday of every week for a day of pastime, "quhairon it suld be lesum to all the laboraris of the ground within this realme to do thair awin lesum busines, and navayes to be answerabill to thair maisteris that day." (p. 179.)

The Magistrates also intimated to the citizens, at a general meeting, the proposal of the Kirk Session, "that the maisteris of houshaldis, thair wyffis, bairnis, and servandis, and utheris inhabitants cum to discretioun of yeris, should be catechised every Thursday," which "was thocht werray reasonabill, and nane opponit nor objectit in the contrar." (p. 208.)

In 1599, they appointed a fast to be held on a Sunday, and enjoyned the inhabitants "to keip the kirkis fra murning to the efternoon sermonis be endit, and for entreating God of his mercies for seasonable wedder, and dropping schouris of rayne, to the comfort of the fructis and cornis presentlie growand on the ground, widderit at the gud plesour of God, be ane gryt droucht and blastering wyndis, for the sinnis and offencis of the people." On this occasion intimation was made to the inhabitants by tuck of drum, that those who should be found absent from church on that day would incur a fine of five pounds. (p. 186.)

In 1592, they apprehended William Murdo on suspicioun of his being "an mantener of errouris," and he being tried by the Provost, Bailies, and Ministers of the burgh, "was fund ane oppin blasphemer aganis the ancient Prophetis and Chrystis Apostlis, ane quha damnis the haill Auld Testament, except the Ten Commandments, and the New Testament, except the Lordis Prayer; a oppin railzear aganis the ministrie and treuth preichit, and is sic a blasphemous heretyk that he can not be sufferit in ane republict." He was accordingly banished from the burgh. with certification that if he should again be found therein, he "sal be brint on the cheik and his luggis cuttit." (p. 75.)

In the same year they ordained the whole inhabitants to compear in church after sermon, and give their oaths "for mantenance of the caus of trew religioun presentlie professit within this realm," in terms of his Majesty's proclamation.

The Magistrates thus performed the duties of ecclesiastical censors, and exhibit some jealousy of any undue exercise of spiritual powers elsewhere. Thus, among the points to be inquired into by the privy inquest, are the following:—"Item, gif ony man drawis his nichtbouris fra secular courtis, be ony spirituall court quhatsumeuer." (p. 88.) "Item, giff thair be any quhilk hes gevin landis or annuell rentis to religious places, or in the handis of religious men, or uther kirkmen, without licence of the king." (p. 89.)

While thus vigilant in regard to such matters, it is not to be supposed that a man who was suspected of intercourse with spirits would escape their notice. Accordingly, Thomas Lorne, in the Overtoun of Dyce, being accused of "hering of spreittis and wauering oftentymes fra his wyff, bairnis, and famelie, be the space of seven ulkis," without its being known to them or any other person where he has been during that time, and confessing his fault, became bound to reform his practices, or in the event of his failing to do so, he "is contented to suffer death as ane giltie persoun dealer with spreittis." * (p. 204.)

It appears from other records printed for the Club, that at this time a great outburst of witchcraft occurred in the district. Doubtless the business which accumulated on the hands of the Magistrates must have been very engrossing, as twenty-six individuals suffered in the flames as witches at this period. The Dean of Gild

* The Parish of Dyce seems to have had a monopoly of spirits at this time. See the case of Walter Ronaldsone in Kirkton of Dyce, in 1601, who had "familiaritie of a spirite." On one occasion this spirit appeared in the form of "ane litill bodie, haiffing a scheavin berd, cled in quhyt lening lyk a sark." (Selections from Ecc. Records, p. 184.)

was so much occupied with these matters, and his time so much abstracted from his ordinary duties, "in his extraordinarie panis on the birning of the gryt numer of witches brint this year, and on the four pirrattis, and bigging of the port on the brig of Dee, and reparing of the Gray Freris Kirk and stepill theirof," as to induce the Magistrates to vote a sum of money to him by way of recompence. (p. 155.)

About this time John Gordon was detained in the kirk vault, as a "manifest and oppin witch." It would appear that multitudes flocked to him, "and speris at the said Johne dyvers and sindrie thingis werray prejudiciall to the commoun pepill." It does not here appear how Johne had been involved in this heavy charge, except that until "he was laitlie apprehendit and tane, he gawe himself out as a dum man." (p. 145.) There is evidence of the continued determination of the Magistrates to proceed against witches and sorcerers, "and that this burght and fredome thairof suld be purgitt of sic contagious enemies to the commoun weill of the same." (p. 206.)

We have an instance in the present volume of the proceedings which took place at the election of a minister under the system which prevailed during part of the period in question. Mr. Robert Howie had been removed from Aberdeen to Dundee, and "at the desire of the counsall, and be consent of his Majestie, and adwyse of the Commissionaris of the General Kirk," Mr. George Greir came to the burgh and preached "for a tryall of his qualificatioun" to be Mr. Howie's successor. After hearing him preach, the town authorized the Council "to deall with him for his transportation to this burght." (p. 188.) The Council accordingly "travellit earnestlie" with Mr. Greir, in whom however "thair was, nor is nocht, sic willingnes fand, nather yit is he sa loving towards his accepting of the charge, as the Counsall wald wische him." (p. 196.)

Mr. Grier remained in Aberdeen about ten days. His whole

charges were defrayed by the town, as appears by the following entries in the accounts of the burgh* :—

Item, be vertew of ane act of counsall of the dait the xii. of [ ] 1599, gevin to Maister George Greir, minister, for his expensis in cuming to this burght from Edinburgh, as he that was put in licence to have bene one of the ministers of this burght	£40	0	0
Item, gevin to the said Mr. George, horshyre, [ ] Dundie .	3	7	0
Item, gevin at command of the prouest and bailleis for the wyne and spycerie to the said Mr. George Greir, the nicht before his passing out of this burght	3	6	8
Item, gevin at command of the prouest, bailleis, and counsall for the said Mr. George ordinar chargis and expensiss during his remaining within this burght, quhilk wes be the space of ten dayes, in the hous of Mr. Peter Blakburne, minister . . .	13	6	8

The citizens, on hearing of the coldness of Mr. Greir, resolved to look out for a clergyman elsewhere, and accordingly named a large commission, which included David, Bishop of Aberdeen; Mr. Blackburn, Minister; Mr. David Raitt, Principal of King's College; Mr. Gilbert Gray, Principal of Marischal College, and several of the principal burgesses, "to nominat and cheis ane qualifiet persoun indewit with qualities meit for the said office, to accept the function of ane of the ministeris of this burght," either in the diocese of Aberdeen or elsewhere, "as to sic persones quha hes best knawledge, and can decerne better in the said matter nor a commounaltie," should seem right, with power to fix his stipend and how it is to be paid, but "provyding that befoir the admission of the said persoun to the said function, he be hard teiche and weill lyckit of be thame." (p. 195.)

* The gifts made to their clergymen by the Magistrates were many and various. To Mr. Adam Herriot, the first clergyman in Aberdeen of the new opinions, they presented a suit of cloathes in 1560, of which the following entry occurs in the accounts :—

Item, for ane garment and haill stand of claythis to Maister Adame Herreot at the townis command..... 28 lib.

Item, Adame Herreat himself, his servand, and his horss, the space of ix. owkkis ellis bigane..... 25 lib.

At a subsequent meeting, the Commissioners reported that they, after hearing the doctrine of Mr. James Ross, Minister at Strachan, on Sunday last, made to both the congregations, "on the tua pairtis of the halie scriptures, gevin to him for a theme and text to teich on, for his tryell in doctrine and literature, had, efter censuring of him in knawledge, doctrine, and lyff, fund the said Maister James to hawe sound knawledge in the holie scriptures, and habill to undertak the said charge." The meeting, on being enquired at, gave their opinion that "his doctrine was sound and hailsum doctrine," and therefore gave their consent to his nomination, election, and admission; accordingly, David, Bishop of Aberdeen, for himself, and "as ane havand powar of his Majestie, to the chesing and electing of ane ordinar minister and pastor for preching of the evangell and ministratioun of the sacramentis within this burght, for his Hienes, and in name of his Majestie, votit and declarit, in audience of the towne, that he gawe his consent to the electing of the said Mr. James;" which nomination and election by the Commissioners, and also by the Bishop, having power of his Majesty, as aforesaid, and by the whole inhabitants without contradiction, having been made, the Commissioners proceeded to settle the stipend to be paid to the said Mr. James; and he being personally present, accepted of the office, and, in token of his acceptance thereof, and that he was content with the offered stipend, "the said Mr. James joinit hand in the hand of the said David, Bishop of Aberdene, and of the said Alex. Rutherford, prowest, in presence of the towne; they on the vther part promising faythfullie to assist the said Maister James in every thing pertening to his charge, with obedience as becumeth the flock to their pastour, sa long as he remanit faythfull in that office." (p. 197.)

A "disjoyne" was given to the Bishop and Ministers on the occasion (p. 204); and, as an addition was soon made to the stipend of Mr. Ross, it would appear that his popularity had been sustained.

Various notices would seem to show the closeness of the bond which then united the various classes of society together; and the heartiness with which rejoicings were universally celebrated on the occasion of any public benefit, would imply the existence of a pervading feeling that all were members of one large family, each member being interested in the welfare of the other. On the birth of a Prince, in 1593, rejoicings were ordered to be held on the Sunday, immediately after the afternoon sermon, a table to be covered at the Market Cross for the Magistrates and Council, "with tua bunnis of Inglis beir to be placed and run at the said Marcat Crose, the vyne to be liberallie drunkin in sic a ressonabill quantitie as the Deane of Gild sall deuyse, four dussoun buistis of skorchettis, confecttis, and confectionis, to be placed on the said tabill and cassin amongis the pepill, with glassis to be brockin." (p. 90.)

On the King's escape from the Gowrie conspiracy, while many of his subjects disbelieved the existence of any plot or danger except in his own royal imagination, the people of Aberdeen were warned by their Magistrates to "keip the sermones" both morning and afternoon, and instead of resuming their work, they were ordered, "efter the preitching and thankisgeving, to spend the rest of the day in all lauchfull and honest gladnes, and accompanie thair Magistrattis throu the toune, in singing of psalmes and prasing of God, and ordanis the crose to be dectit and hung, and ane tabill to be sett thairat, and the wyne and spycerie to be drunkin and spent, and a number of glassis to be cassin and brockin, in significatioun of thair rejocing and glaid hartis for his Majesties happie preservatioun, wrocht sa miraculouslie be Goddis guid providence." (p. 221.) The Master of the Grammar School composed a congratulatory treatise in Latin on the occasion, and as it was dedicated to the Magistrates, and contained "sum commemoratioun of this burghis antiquitie and privilegis, granted thairunto be his Majesties predicessouris," he received a honorarium of twenty pounds. (p. 222.)

On the news of his Majesty's accession to the English throne, the townsmen were forthwith warned, be sound of trumpet and drum, "to assemble instantlie in thair paroche kirk, and thair gif thankis and prasis to God for the foresaid glad tydings;" thereafter bonefires were to be kindled on all the streets, the bells to be rung, wine and spicery to be drunk at the cross, glasses broken, and "the haill youthis of the toune, to tak thair hagbuttis, and accompanie thair Magistrattis throcht the haill rewis of the toun, pas the tyme in schuting thair muskattis and hagbuttis til lait at nicht; the tounis haill munitioun and artailzerie to be chargit and schott, and all godlie mirrienes and pastime usit, that may expres the joy and glaidnes of the hartis of the people." (p. 237.)

On his Majesty's escape from gunpowder plot, besides other demonstrations of joy, the townsmen were ordered to "accompanie the Magistratis and Ministrie, passing throu the haill streittis, and singing of psalmes and magnefeing the Lord, for the said benefitt;" and thereafter adjourn to the cross for wine and spicery, as usual. (p. 279.)

Even the safe return of Prince Charles from Spain, in 1623, was celebrated with every demonstration of joy, including the sermons, bonefires, drinking of wine, and shooting. (p. 390.)

The hospitality of the burgh also resembles rather the warm demonstrations of private friendship than the formal courtesy of a public body. No man engaged in the public service or of distinguished rank seems ever to have passed through the burgh without an entertainment from the Magistrates, nor was any transaction arranged without a banquet to those who conducted the arrangements.

The Bishop, who had been on an embassy to Denmark, gets wine and spicery "for his welcome hame." (p. 175.) At the same time, on hearing that the Duke of Lennox and the Earl of Huntly were to be in the town, it was resolved, "according to the custume ob-

servit within this burght heirtofoir in all ages," to present these noblemen with six quarts of wine, and various confections. (p. 177.) A few months after this time, the Earl of Huntly being again in the town, received another present of wine and confections, "according to the lovabill consuetude of this burght." Next month, the Countess Marischal gets a similar gift, "it being the first tyme of hir entrie thairin."

In 1619, the Duke of Lennox was expected to remain in the burgh for some days, "for his pastime and recreatioun," and it was resolved to provide him with a lodging, as well as wine, spiceries, and all other necessary provisions. (p. 361.) The expense was considerable:—

Item, be wertew of ane ordinance of counsall of the dait 4 August, 1619, debursit upoun halding hous to my Lord Duke of Lenox, and the nobillmen that attendit him during the tyme of his lait being in this burghe, in the said moneth of August, conforme to the particular compt thairof, sene, and allowit be the auditors of comptis, extending in all to the soume of £425 12 0

The liberality of the citizens was also extended, in 1601, to the "Kingis servandis presentlie in this burght, quha playes comedies and staige playes, be reasoun thay ar recommendit be his Majesties speciall letter, and hes played sum of thair comedies in this burght." (p. 222.) The following entry in the accounts of the burgh show the sums thus given:—

Item, to the stageplayeris, Inglischemen £22 0 0
Item, for the stageplayeris support that nicht thaye plaiid to the towne 3 0 0

Their whole expenses were also defrayed during their sojourn in the burgh, as well as the expenses of a French knight who accompanied them. These are thus entered in the accounts:—

Item, gevin for the expensiss maid on the entertenement of Monsieur de Halzie, Frenschemane, and the gentilmen, his Majestes servands, quho cum to this burght with him, in October, 1601, and for defraying of

thair haill chargis during thair remaining in this burght, conforme to ane ordinance of counsall maid thairanent. . . £126 3 6

This Frenchman and many other knights and gentlemen were admitted burgesses.

22*nd October*, 1601.

The quhilk day, Sir Francis Hospitall of Haulszie, Knycht, Frenschman, being recommendit be his Majestie to the prouest, bailleis, and counsall of this brocht, to be favorablie interteneit with the gentilmen, his Majesties seruands efter specifeit, quha war direct to this brucht be his Majestie, to accumpanie the said Frenshman, being ane nobillman of France, cumming only to this burcht to sie the towne and cuntrie; the Frenshman, with the knichtis and gentilmen following, wer all ressauit and admittit burgesses of gild of this burcht, quha gawe thair aithis in common form. Folowis the names of thame that war admittit burgesses:—

Sir Francis Hospitall of Halzie, knycht.
Sir Claud Hamiltoun of Schawfeild, knycht.
Sir Johne Grahame of Orkil, knycht.
Sir Johne Ramsay of Ester Baronie, knycht.
James Hay, James Auchterlony, Robert Ker, James Schaw, Thomas Foster, James Gleghorne, Dauid Drummond, seruitors to his Majesty.
Monsieur de Scheyne, Monsieur la Bar, seruitors to the said Sir Francis.
James Law.
James Hamiltoun, seruitour to the said Sir Claud.
Archibald Sym, trumpeter.
Laurence Fletcher, comediane to his Majestie.
Mr. David Wod.
Johne Bronderstainis.*

* In "William Shakspere, a Biography by Charles Knight, London, 1843," there is (p. 441,) a very interesting dissertation on the above entry, relating to the King's servants or company of Comedians. Mr. Knight seems satisfactorily to identify "Laurence Fletcher, comediane to his Majestie," with that Laurence Fletcher who is associated with Shakspere in the Patent granted to them and others by James I. in 1603. The presumptions are very weighty therefore for believing that our great poet was one of the company who with Fletcher "played comedeis and staige playes" to the burgesses of Aberdeen in 1601, and that Fletcher, as the head of the company, received the only honour which the Magistrates could confer, by being admitted a burgess.

Mr. Knight also finds traces of Shakspere's witches in the singularly curious trials for witchcraft printed for the Club (Miscellany, vol. I.), which had recently occurred in Aberdeen, and of which a stranger, capable of appreciating and willing to listen to such marvellous instances of supernatural power, would doubtless hear enough. Mr. Knight also suggests that Shakspere might have picked up in his sojourn in Scotland at this time, the floating traditions about Macbeth which he afterwards worked up in his wonderful tragedy.

Thus we find them aiding three Hungarians who had been taken prisoners by the Turks in defence of the christian religion. (p. 89.) A burgess of Irvine, who had been "pilleit and herreit be the Ireland men," gets assistance. (p. 110.) Two shipwrecked Danes received aid, and "six coastsyd men that wer pilleit be the Hieland men in thair cumming fra the Lewis" (p. 234) are relieved.

Various illustrations of the state of education in the burgh, occur in the present volume.

The Master of the Grammar School had the exclusive right of teaching grammar within the burgh, and on various occasions he is found asserting this privilege. Thus in 1593, a certain Mr. David Kanzie was accused "of instructing of bairnis in oratrie, poetrie, and sic as belangis to that liberall science, without licence, libertie, and previledge grantit to the said Maister David, be the provest, bailleis, and consall, and the said Mr. Thomas, maister of the grammer school, usurping theirby the said Mr. Thomas place, to quhom onlie it is lesum, and to sic as he sall deput wnder him to teich grammer within this burgh." (p. 90.) Whereupon he was ordered to desist and cease from farther teaching till he should obtain such licence.

An ordinance vindicating the privileges of the Grammar School occurs shortly after. (p. 154.)

About ten years after this time, Edward Diggens, Englishman, supplicates the council for liberty to "teache the youthe within this burghe in wreitting and arithmetik for the space of thrie monethis allanerlie." He promised to teach them in that time "a sufficient habite of a legible hand." His terms were unexceptionable: he was "to teache the poor for Godis sake, and the ritche for reasone, and nothing to be payit except they be profited." (p. 293.)

He accordingly received licence from the council, "provyding that he teache his scolleris onlie to wreit and in arithmetik, and no utherwayis." John Thomson and his wife were allowit to teach,

but the license extended only to "maidyne bairnis," and provided that they should have no "man doctour" under them. (p. 171.)

The burgh then, as now, was so fortunate as to possess in the Masters of their Grammar School men of letters and classical taste. At the time when these notices occur, the chairs of learning in this academy were occupied by men whose names are not unknown in the world of letters. These were Mr. Thomas Reid and Mr. David Wedderburn, who were for some time joint masters of the Grammar School. The former soon became one of the Regents in Marischal College, and thereafter Latin Secretary to King James VI. (p. 246.) The latter was a poet of no little fame in his day. He lived in the closest intimacy with Dr. Arthur Johnston, and numbered among his friends, the pious Bishop Patrick Forbes, William Forbes, Bishop of Edinburgh, and many illustrious contemporaries.

Perhaps we may not err in ascribing to the fire enkindled by these men of genius in the breasts of their youthful pupils, that maturity of scholarship and classical taste which rendered the names of many of the scholars of Aberdeen illustrious, as well in foreign countries as at home, during the early part of this century.

About two years after his admission, Wedderburn intimated to the Council, "that he being vrgit and burdenit be the lait provinciall assemblie of the ministrie hauldin in this burght, to accept upon him the functioun of ane minister of Goddis word, was resoluit to enter in the said functioun, and obey God calling him thairto be the said assemblie, and to leawe and desert the said school." (p. 238.)

The Council permitted him to give up his situation in the Grammar School, but he very soon changed his intentions, and, at his own request, was reponed in his former office. (p. 244.)

In the ensuing year, there is mention made of "the greiffs" expressed by many of the inhabitants against Wedderburn, for "certane abuses and extortionis laitlie enterit and raisit in the said

schooll, by all gude ordour or forme." These consisted of exactions of higher fees for teaching than had been appointed. "Item, for tacking fra ewerie bairne, ilk Sonday, tua penneis, to be gevin to the puir; it being no point of charitie to caus bairnis giwe siluer to the puir, thai hawing no siluer to giwe of thair awin but that for quhilk thay mak sum wrang schift." Among other exactions, he took eightpence monthly for "bent money," and at the beginning of ilk buik twelff penneis. "Item, for causing bairnis pay siluer at Candilmes, for thair Candilmes candill, aganis all forme and ordour, quhairas the auld forme wes to tak onlie candill and navayes siluer." The last matter was so arranged that the children should only be obliged to bring two candles during their pleasure at Candlemas, "not restraining alwayes the liberalitie of thair parantis." No silver was allowed to be taken, "except fra him quha sall *be king*, to quhome it sall be lesum to gif quhat he pleissis, and tua of the Counsall to be present in the school on Candilmes evin, to sie this ordour concerning the candill preceislie keipit for eschewing emulation and contentioun amangis the bairnis.." (p. 264.)

Several of these alleged "novations" appear to have arisen "rather upoun ane auld vse and custume introducit in the said school befoir the said Maister Dauidis entrie thairwith, than anywayis inuentit or devysit be him." The regulations now made were ordered to be written "in gryt letteris on a brod, and to be affixit in the Grammar School, that nather the Maister, nor the Doctour, (the second master,) nor ony of the scholeris pretend ignerance thairof."

On the death of Mr. Gilbert Gray, Principal of Marischal College, in 1614, Wedderburn was appointed by the Council to teach "the hie class of the College" for a time, in doing which, he met with the approbation of the Students, Council, and whole inhabitants, and received from the Council a suitable reward.

In 1620, we find Mr. Wedderburn complaning to the Council, "that he hes not ane stipend quhilk may encourage ane honest man

to walk in sic a toilsum callin with cheerfulness; the multitude of schooles everiequhair, the burdine of a familie unknawin to him of befoir, the darth of the tyme, so cutteth away any little thing that is gottin, that or the twa pairt of the quarter be expired, he sees evidently no correspondense betwixt his extraordinar paynis and the ordinar reward: thairfour that it wald pleas thair wisdemes, with quhat affectioun they wald wishe the wark to stand and go fordward, to sie also with the same affectioun how be honest meanes the wark may be under proppet;" and that they "will see that in sum measure he may liwe as vther scholaris in vther professionis." (p. 366.) This reasonable request was readily complied with by augmenting the school fees, and also by giving him an yearly sum of eighty merks, for which cause Wedderburne agreed to give a weekly lesson in Humanity, in the Marischal College, "out of sic authoris, at sic hours, and after sic method as sal be enjoyned to him be the counsall, and thairwith to compose in Latine, both in prose and verse, quhatsumeuir purpose or theme concerning the commoun effairis of the toune, ather at hame or afield, as he sal be requyred be any of the Magistrattis or Clerk in tyme comeing." It was found, however, that the teaching of Humanity interfered with the discharge of his other duties, and this part of his labour was soon discontinued.

Mr. William Wedderburne, a brother of the Master of the Grammar School, held the office of "Doctour" or Second Master. He had given some offence to Alexander Forbes, sometime of Towie, who had in consequence "passed to the said Grammer School, and thair gevin ane cuff to the said Maister Williame Wedderburne." He acknowledged his offence, and in terms of an ordinance of the Council he accompanied the Magistrates and Council to the Grammar Schoole, "and thair most submissiwelie on his kneeis, confest his wrang foirsaid, done to the toune and to the said Maister Williame Wedderburne, Doctour of thair Grammer Schoole, and

first crawit the Magistrattis and Counsall, and nixt the said Maister Williame, pardoun thairfoir, promeising neuir to do the lyke in tyme cumeing, but to remayne a freynd and weill willar baith to the toune and to the said Maister Williame in all tyme heireftir, and instantlie choppit handis with the Magistrattis and the said Maister Williame." (p. 353.)

It is notoriously a difficult matter to change the established customs of a people, and the Magistrates amply experienced this truth in the continued opposition which they encountered in their efforts to abolish certain observances, to which the boys of the Grammar School, as well as the inhabitants in general, had been accustomed at the feast of "Yule."

In 1576, certain deacons of crafts were accused of "manteining of the twenty-fyft day of December last bypast, as Ywill day, halding the same haly day, and absteining fra labour for the maist pairt witht festing and playing," who answered that they who were suspected "of the said inormitie" had been already dealt with by the Minister and Kirk Session, and had purged themselves thereof; but they again "purgit thame selffis on their consciens that they mantenit nocht the said superstitiouis festuall dayis," and found caution to observe the ordinance against the same in time coming. (p. 25.)

In former times, the boys of the Grammar School had enjoyed certain "auld priuileges" about the time of Christmas, which were modified or withdrawn soon after the Reformation. In 1568, they presented a supplication to the Council on the subject, "be epistill in Latin," and at this time it was arranged, that in lieu of the old privileges they should have liberty to remain absent from school "fra Sanct Thomas evin before Yuill quhill vpon the morne efter the Epiphanie day." (Burgh Records, vol. i. p. 366.) But the Council finding "inconuenientis followand thairon," abolished this holiday. (p. 25.)

Some years thereafter, it would appear that the students had persisted in their old enormities, by "taking of the schuill, and vsurping aganis the Master and Magistrates this tyme of yeir afoir Yuill, callit Natiuite of our Lord"; so that it became necessary to ordain, that all gentlemen's sons to landward, as well as burgesses sons within the burgh, should be presented to the Magistrates before they should be admitted to the school, and should find caution for obedience to the Master and Magistrates. (p. 39.)

Notwithstanding of this, the boys appear to have vindicated their old privileges on the very next occurrence of the time of Yuill, and to have "takyn the schuill, mening to have the ald previlege." The Council freely forgave all past misdeeds of this sort, and in presence of the master, and of the greater part of the scholars, ordained that no privilege should be granted to the scholars at the time of "Yuill" in time coming; they however compounded with the boys by assigning to them three days of vacation at the beginning of every quarter. (p. 45.)

About twenty years after this time, the old privilege seems to have been resumed in all its strength. Thus in 1604, "the disordour and dissolute behaviour" of the boys of the Grammar School, had again come to a great height, about the superstitious time of Yuill. They would appear to have been guilty of "tacking of the school, keping and haulding of the same agains thair Maister, with swordis, gunnis, pistollis, and vtheris wappynnis, spulzeing and tacking of puir folkis geir, sic as geisse, foullis, peittis, and utheris vivaris;" all which, not only tended to the superstitious observation of holy days, but also bred in the scholars a contempt of their Master and of all discipline; "besyddis, that the puir people that cummis into the towne for selling of vivaris, are spulzeit and reft thairof, and na satisfactioun maid to thame of the samen, to thair gryt hurt and skayth, and sklander of this burght and Magistrattis thairof." The statute requiring caution from all

the scholars, that they would submit to discipline, and relinquish such disorders in future, was again renewed. (p. 251.)

The boys seem to have been under no very effectual discipline, for we find them accused of "trubling and striking of the serwandis of diwerse nichtbouris within the burght, and using gryt disordour and enormities," and at a time when they could not plead the excuse of their old privileges at Yule.

The inadequacy of the means used to prevent these disorders may be gathered from what happened a few years after the last notice on the subject. In 1612, we find seven students, sons of country gentlemen, accused by the provest of the great enormities which, in company with their associates in the Grammar School, Song School, and Writing School, they had perpetrated on the first of December, aggravated, too, by its commission "lang befoir the superstitious tyme of Yuill." They appear on the above day to have taken possession of the Song School, "keippit and hauldin the same with hagbuttis, pistollis, swordis, and long wapynnis," for three days, till the magistrates were compelled to apprehend and imprison a certain number of them. They were also accused "for wearing of gunes and schoitting theirwith, alsuell on the nicht as on the day, and for great deidis of oppressioune and ryottis comittit be thame sen the first day of December, aganis diuers nichtbouris of this burghe, in cumeing to thair houssis and bracking up thair durris and windouis, and maisterfullie away tacking of thair foulis, pultrie, breid, and vivaris," besides taking at thair own hand "fewall and vivaris" from the lieges coming to the burgh, and committing many other deeds of oppression. (p. 310.)

This was too serious a matter to be passed over, and accordingly upwards of twenty students, all of them sons of gentlemen, were expelled from the schools of the burgh, and were appointed to find caution that they should not molest the inhabitants in time coming. The Magistrates, at the same time, resolved to provide

against the usual disorders at Christmas, which they partly attributed to the slackness of discipline maintained by the Masters. And in the meantime, Gilbert Leslie, Master of the Writing School, who happened to be present, undertook for the good behaviour of his scholars in time to come. No doubt he must have found this to be a hazardous task, for the very next day we find that he was attacked by Patrick Gordon of Birsmoir, a near relative of two of the boys who had been expelled, who drew his sword, and pursued Mr. Leslie on the street, "giwing furthe dyveris and sindrie straikis at the said Gilbert." The Laird of Birsmoir acknowledged his offence, and found surety that he would not molest the Master of the Writing School in time to come. (p. 313.) But the affront which had been put upon the expelled scholars was very grievous, and probably had been brought about by the evidence of Leslie; in a few months, we find that a brother of the Laird of Birsmoir, and Francis Murray, brother to the Laird of Cowbairdie, "with sum vtheris, thair complices, hes this day cum to this burgh of sett purpos and prouisioun, and maist proudlie, in contempt of law and justice, hes mest crewallie and unmercifullie persewit Gilbert Leslie, reidar, and Maister of the Writing School of this burgh, of his lyiff, on the Kingis hie streitt of this burgh, at the kirk styill, and hes gewin him many bluidie and best straikis with durkis and battounes in dyuers pairtis of his bodie, to the great effuseoune of his bloode and danger of his lyiff. (p 315.)

The Magistrates immediately resolved to charge the above individuals as well as the Laird of Birsmoir, who probably was at the bottom of the attack, to appear before the Privy Council to answer for the oppression thus committed. Through the mediation of Alexander Gordon of Cluny the matter was amicably settled. The Laird of Birsmoir had to pay two hundred merks of a fine, and he along with his accomplices were ordered "to cum to the auld kirk of this burgh on ane preiching day, and thair, immediatlie efter the

ending of the sermone befoir the blessing, to ryis out of thair seat in the ruid loft and compear befoir the pulpitt, and thair in all humilitie, ilk ane seuerallie efter vther, crawe first God pardoun and forgiwenes for thair said wrang done to the toune and to the said Gilbert Lesle; and nixt to turne themselffis towardis the magistrattis dask, and, in all humilitie, confes thair offence done to the toun and to the said Gilbert, and crawe the Prowest, Baillies, Counsall, and haill toune, pardoun thairfoir; and last, to crawe the said Gilbert Leslie, quhome thay hurt, pardoun and forgiwenes for the same, schak handis with him, and promeis newer to do the lyk in tym cumming." (p. 319.)

There seems no reason to doubt that these disorders proceeded from the saturnalia originally indulged in by the boys at the time of "Yuill," and from the attempts of the Magistrates to bring their license within reasonable limits.

It is probable that then, as in later times, the irritated feelings of contending parties found vent in law pleas, when the system of attacking each other with swords and guns began to be discouraged. In 1580, we find the Magistrates taking order for enforcing a recent Act of Parliament "against sic personis within burght as wrangouslie perseuis or defendis ony actionis or caussis in jugement, and upon thame that tynes the pley within burght." The fines which were recoverable from such parties, were leased for one year at a sum of forty pounds.

We observe a warlike spirit, too, in quarters where it is not ordinarily looked for. Thus the wife of Mr. Aidie, Principal of the Marischal College, was convicted of "dinging and stricking Janet Mackye, servand to James Birny in Tarves, on the face, to the effusion of her bluid." (p. 361.)

The erection of the College by the Earl Marischal, was an event of no little consequence to the prosperity of the burgh. The charter of its foundation is dated 2nd April, 1593; and we have

the election of James Forbes of Tullochbuie, as the first *economus* of the establishment, in little more than two months thereafter.

Various notices in the accounts of the year 1593–4, show that the Magistrates took every means to expedite the undertaking;

Be vertew of ane ordinance of counsall, of the dait the xxi. of December, 1593, gevin to the Bischop, Minister, and Mr. Thomas Mollisoun, Clerk, appoyntit be the Counsall to pas to Edinburgh anent the mater of the exhibitioun of the execution of the new College, to mak thair expensiss	£80	0	0
Item, for the hyre of Mr. Thomas Mollisones horss the same tyme	2	10	0
Item, for the Bischoppis horss hyre the same tyme . . .	2	0	0
Item, for the Bischoppis denner, supper, and desiwyne, with his twa serwands, the day befor he red	2	0	0
Item, gewin to Robert Gareaucht, Messinger, at command of the Prowest and Bailleis, to continew the charges gewin be him at the instance of the Erll Merschall, anent the summonding of the Bishop, for the ereetioun of the new College	1	6	8
Item, to ane boy to pas to Dunnotter to summond the Erll Merscheall in the mater of the College, and for opening of the lettreis	0	10	0

It formed part of the duties of the Master of the Grammar School, that he should indite Latin verses on all occasions when the "necessar adois" of the town required it; and it is not wonderful that his poetical talent should have been employed to celebrate an event so interesting and important as the foundation of Marischal College.

The following payment was made—

To Mr. Thomas Cargill, to caus print certane verse in Latin in commendatione of my Lord Marscheall for erecking the new College in Aberdeen, at the Counsallis command . . .	£3	0	0

In these times, every grown up person carried his sword, and was trained to use his weapons, and we are therefore prepared to expect frequent notices of broils and mutual attacks by "drawing of swords

and quhingeris," (p. 109), both among the burgesses and barons. On one occasion, the Magistrates found it necessary to call out the townsmen "in thair armis, and speciallie in lang vappynnis," to keep the peace between the Earl Marischal and his friends, on the one part, and Gordon, younger of Cairnborrow, and others of that clan, on the other.

A curious symptom of the lawless state of the times may be observed in the ordinances of the Magistrates requiring a certain number of the inhabitants to assist in besieging the Houses of the Abbey of Deer (p. 68), and Drumbreck. (p. 250.) The circumstances attending the siege of the former have been already noticed in one of the works printed for the Club. *

George Meldrum, younger of Drumbreck, the hero of the latter, affords a choice specimen of the cruel brigand. It would appear that he had conceived a deadly feud against his brother Andrew, and, in futherance of his malice, had attacked him at the Mylnetoun of Dumbreck, in the year 1599, grievously wounding him, and at the same time "tuck the said Andro captiue and prissoner, had and conveyit him to the place of Dumbrek, quhair the said George detenit him as captiue be the space of aucht oulkis or thairby, in strait firmance and captiuitie," removing him thereafter to the place of Ernesyde, from which, after a farther captivity of nearly three weeks, he made his escape. He entertained malice also against Andrew Meldrum of Achquharteis, and, with the aid of some of his servants, took him prisoner at his own dwelling-place, carrying him to a house on the Borough Muir of Edinburgh. He was also at feud with Mr. Alexander Gibsone, one of the Clerks of Session, and took him prisoner as well as a friend and servant, who were riding in company with him, and robbed them. He carried Mr. Gibsone into England, detaining him in captivity for the space of eight days.

* Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. ii., p. 423.

His last offence, being also the one which called for the aid of the citizens of Aberdeen in its redress, was the invasion of his brother's house of Drumbreck, and keeping of the same against the King's Guard, who had commission to charge him to render it up. This charge he disobeyed, and the burgh had now to furnish sixteen soldiers to assist the royal guard in besieging this ferocious freebooter in his retreat. He was soon afterwards tried, found guilty, and beheaded for his oppression and other crimes.*

In 1593, provision was made for the defence of the town against "lawles Helandmen in Birss, Glentanner, and thair about," who had lately been guilty of the "onmerciful murthering of men and bairnis, and also of the maisterfull and violent robbing and spulzeing of all the bestiall, guidis, and gear of a gryt pairt of the inhabitantis of theas boundis." These Highlanders, who are said to have "na respect to God nor man," plundered the country within 20 miles of the burgh, so that the inhabitants were warned to be ready to convene at the sound of the bell, for the defence of "thair lyvis, gudis, and geir," in case of a sudden assault by these men of Birss. (p. 82.)

On several occasions during the period embraced in the present volume, the necessities of state, or his own amusement, drew the King to visit the burgh. We may guess at the nature of the relaxations in which he indulged while in the burgh, from the "bigging of ane pair of buttis besyd the Castell hill, for serving of his hienes and noble men that is to cum heir with his grace, according to the praiss and renoune of this burgh." (p. 65.)

In 1617, his Majesty being desirous of enjoying his favourite sport of hunting, made a progress into Angus, lodging at Kinnaird, in that shire, in the vicinity of Montreumonth Moor, which had been from an early period set apart for royal sport. On this

* The dittay against Meldrum will be found at full length in Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, vol. ii., p. 428.

occasion the Lords of the Privy Council thought "it lyke aneugh that if the necessitie of his princelie afferis and adois will not suffer him to come forder northe," yit many of his train would probably pay a visit to the burgh. They therefore exhorted the magistrates to make suitable preparations, so that no "markis of incivilitie nor tackynnis of penurie and scant" might be discovered among them. They were recommended to have lodgings prepared in the "most handsome, civile, and comelie" order that can be, "with goode bedding, weel washine weel smellit naprie, and with goode clein and cleir weshell, and of sufficient lairgenes; to have viveris for men and horse, to have the streets kept clean, so that no filthe nor middingis be seine vpon the same, and in especiall that the commoun way betuixt the burgh and the Auldtoun, be kept cleene, and the middingis thereon forthwith removed, becaus the same is not onlie his Majesties hie way to the Auldtoun, whair the consistorie sittis, and whairunto all the memberis of that judicatorie, and pairtyis haueing to do thair, doth daylie repair, bot the strangeris whilks will repair to your towne at that tyme will be curious to see the Colledge, Churche, and otheris monumentis in the Auldtown." In conclusion, they were advised that thair "be no beggaris seene vpoun your streittis nor about your portis."

His Majesty did not on this occasion visit his faithful subjects in Aberdeen, but "twenty worschipful knychtis and worthie gentillmen" in his train did so, and were admitted burgesses. Among these were his Majesty's apothecary, and his fool. The latter received a more substantial testimony of the town's kindness, of which the record is preserved in the accounts:

Item, at command of the magistrattis and counsall, gewin to Archibald Armstrong, his Majesties plesant, quha come to this burght with the Inglishe knichtis quhen his Majestie was at the huntis in Munremonth, ane Portugall ducat £53 6 8

Item, to his Majesties violeris that accompaniet the saidis knychtis to this burgh	26	13	4
Item, to Alexander Gariauche, commoun cuik, for his service done to the towne the time of the Inglishe knychtis heir being .	6	13	4

In this burgh, as in all other parts of the country, the necessities of the poor in the period which followed the Reformation, required much of the attention of those in power.* The following arrangement for their support was adopted in 1595: the poor were "deuidit in four rankis, to vit, in babes, decayit persones, houshalderis, leamit and impotent persones, and in sic as war decrepit and auld, borne and bred within this burght, at the leist that hes maid their commoun resort and residence within the same, be the space of thir sevin yeris bypast."

The inhabitants resolved, at a general meeting called to consider of the matter, that each person should receive "ane baib" into his house, and that they should also raise a voluntary contribution for the other classes.

It was a matter of great difficulty to clear the town of stranger beggars, although a person was specially appointed for the purpose. On various occasions there are complaints of the great number of idle persons who resort to the town, who are called "very contagious enemies to the commoun weill of this burgh." On one occasion a remedial ordinance was passed, "that na maner of persone salbe sufferit or permittit to duell within this toun, bot sic as salbe notourlie knawn to have sufficient rent of thair awin, or sum honest moyen, industrie, craft, or occupatioun, to leiue on in tyme cumming." (p. 149.)

It would appear that the Parish Church had been permitted to

* In 1587 we hear of complaints of the "misordour and tumult of the puir folkis sittand at the kirk dur beggand almous, plukand and pulland honest menis gownis, cloikis, and abulzement, throw the quhilk thair is gryt confusioun amangis thame." (p. 60.) It was ordered that in time coming they should not be permitted to "sitt or remane ony wyss asking almous within the kirk nor kirk yard, bot to sit without the stylis," and stranger beggars were again ordered to be removed from the burgh.

remain without much alteration since the Reformation, beyond the removal of the many altars which had been erected in it. In 1596, however, the "carvit timmer wark betuixt the pilleris in the queir" was removed, to make way for a stone wall, to be built between the choir and the nave, so as to convert the former into "ane preiching kirk, for preiching of the word of God, and ministratioun of the sacramentis." (p. 135.)

It is probable that for a long time the necessities of the burgh only required the services of a single physician. In 1596, Maister Quintine Prestoun, professor of physic, "in respect of his debilitie, being sumquhat strickin in aige," craves the council's leave "to interteine ane apothecar with his apothecarie shop, for the better furnesing of this burght and of the cuntrie, of all sort of physical and chirurgicall medicamentis" (p. 144.), which they at once accorded to him. In 1601, the council appointed Maister James Cargill, doctor of physic, to try the qualifications of two "chirurgians," and to report whether "they be meitt and qualifeit to exerce and use the said airt." (p. 218.)

In 1594, when his Majesty came northwards to demolish or dismantle the Keeps of the Popish Lords, he borrowed from the magistrates "twentie stand weycht of poulder, togidder with certain mattockis, gavellokis, and vtheris warklomes and materialls for demolisching and casting doun of houssis and fortalices," for the redelivery of which the King and Privy Council gave bond, (p. 102). These warlike instruments were faithfully restored by his Majesty, and thereafter sold, as appears by the accounts of the above year.

Item, the comptar chargis him with the money gotten be him for the irnewark, mattlockis, gavillockis, pickis, and uthir instrumentir furneist be the toun to the dimolishing of Strathbogie, Newtoun, and Slanis, quhilkis war ordanit be act of consall to be sauld, quhilkis being sauld, the money gottin thairfor, according to the particular compt of the selling thairof, extendis to l. lib. xix. sh. viii. d.

His Majesty appears to have resided in the House of the Earl

Marischal during his sojourn in Aberdeen, and the town as usual provided all sort of provisions for his comfort. The following entry in the accounts refers to the spices purchased for the royal use:—

Item, for the spycerie ordanit to be laid in and gevin to the Kingis hous, quhilk was gevin in the quantitie folowing, viz.:—			
Four pund of pepper, price of the pund 34s. is	£6	16	0
Item, four vnces of safroun, at 32s. the vnce, is	6	8	0
Item, half a pund of meassis, at nyn s. the vnce, is . . .	3	12	0
Item, 8 vnces cannell, at nyn s. the vnce, is	3	12	0
Item, aucht pundis sucker, at xxii. s. the pund, is . . .	8	16	0
Item, ane dussone buistis of confeittis, scorchettis, and confectionis, at viii. s. the buist, is	4	16	0

The Earl Marischal having been turned out of his house for his Majesty's accommodation, the Council had to provide a lodging for his Lordship.

Item, at the counsallis command, to Alexander Cullens wyff, for the maill of the house to the Erll Merschall during his Majesties being in this toun,	£20	0	0

The magistrates were on various occasions brought into considerable perplexity from their anxious attempts to put down Papistry. In 1594, their proceedings in this respect brought them into contact with the three Popish Earls, the representatives of the ancient religion in the north. On the 16th of July of that year, a ship called the Esperance arrived in the harbour from Calais "quhairin is thrie strangearis quha ar suspect to be papistis and traffiqueris." The magistrates' supicion arose "be ressone that Mr. James Gordone cam out of Caleis in the said schip, with thame and landit this day furth theirof on the sandis of this burght;" they therefore resolved to seize the ship along with the strangers, and to send them to his Majesty, in charge of twelve of the citizens, (p. 91.)

On the following day the three strangers were committed to jail, because the wind was boisterous, so that the ship could not be sent southwards.

On the 18th of July, the magistrates resolved to send a commissioner to his Majesty to notify the arrival of Mr. James Gordon with the three strangers, "to the effect his Majestie may tak sic ordour theiranent as his hienes sall think expedient," * (p. 92.)

Before any farther step could be taken in the matter, however, the magistrates received a letter from the Popish Earls and the Laird of Auchindoun, in which they intimated, that unless the three strangers were forthwith set at liberty, they would not only esteem the citizens of Aberdeen as their enemies in all time coming, but would instantly attack the town with fire and sword, "and it sal be ane perpetuall querrell to stand sa lange as our houses and posteriteis shall last."

After deliberating on this threatening epistle "at gryt lentht," the magistrates "for eschewing of the eminent perrell of the haill toun, being suirlie informit of the gryt forcis of the saidis erlis, mair nor pairtie to the toun, quha war alreddie lyand about the toun reddie to invaid and persew the samen with fyre and sword, deuisit and ordanit, with uniforme consent, but oppositioune or contradictioun, that rather or the toun suld be put in hazert or perrell, that the saidis thrie strangeris suld be delyuerit to the said erlis, according to the quhilk ordinance the saidis strangeris war delyuerit to thame furth at the portis." (p. 93.)

The magistrates, although the circumstances seemed to leave them no choice in their conduct, did not think themselves safe

* Mr. James Gordon was fourth son of that George, Earl of Huntly, who fell at Corrichie, and uncle of the Earl who took part with the three strangers. He was bred to the church, and was presented to the parsonage of Rhynie when a young man. He was parson of this parish in 1563. (Rec. Parl. 773.) Adhering to the Roman Catholic religion he went abroad, and was admitted a member of the society of Jesus: he also got the degree of Doctor of Theology. He was an active agent of the Roman Catholic Church, to serve which he came repeatedly to Scotland in the reign of James VI., and was thence an object of jealousy and dislike to the new ministers. In February 1587-8, he had a disputation of several hours with the King on the grounds of religion, but without any result. He died on Good Friday in 1620 at Paris in the Jesuits' College in Rue St. Antoine, where he was buried. (Gordon's Hist. of Gordons, vol. ii. p. 119.)

without receiving a discharge for their proceedings in liberating these three men, whose only apparent fault consisted in their being found in the company of Mr. James Gordon, and in being "strangers" to the magistrates of Aberdeen.

The expense of the discharge is entered in the accounts:—

Item, thairefter to the said Jon Andro, be vertew of ane ordinance of counsall, of the dait the fourt of November, 1594, for his panis in forming and registring of the townis discharge, for latting to libertie of the thre strangeris arryving with Mr. James Gordon, ane roiss nobill, at £7 6 8

The following mode of punishing the fishermen of Futty who should cut or interfere with ropes or other goods belonging to ships or boats coming to the harbour, would be considered as too severe by their representatives of the present day. The transgressor was to be "bund to ane staik within the floode merk during the space of thre houris, quhill the water flow round about him," thereafter scourged through the whole town and banished from the same for ever. (p. 209.)

The custom of giving entertainments at funerals has long been considered a great evil, and yet its hold on society seems to be as powerful in our own times as it was several centuries ago. In 1612, the magistrates enacted "that no desert suld be from thyne furth at any lykwalkis in this burght, of quhatsumewir ranck or degrie the defunct be of, bot onlie bread, drink, and cheiss," under a penalty of twenty pounds; and eight years afterwards the fine was levied from three widows who had transgressed the ordinance at the funerals of their husbands. (p. 369.) Another abuse "laitlie croppin in" at burials, arose from the employment of two hand bells, "to go throw the streittis of this burghe, to giwe warning to the nichtbouris of the towne to keip the buriall, the lyke quhairof is not observeit in any wther burgh of this kingdome"; it was ordered, that in future, only one hand bell

should be used at burials, under a penalty of ten pounds. (p. 378.)

But the feasting at baptisms also required to be redressed. It is stated in 1622, that of late a great abuse had appeared by "superfluous and costlie banquetting of bairnes, and be convocating of great numberis of people, both men and wemen, thairwnto, and haveing and vseing all sort of succouris, confectiounes, spyceries, and desert brocht from forane pairtis, besyid great superfluitie of vennisone and wyld meat of all sortis, and withal useing of excessive and extraordinarie drinking and scolling." With the view of improving matters, it was provided that none should hereafter invite "any mae persones to be gossipis or cummeris to any of thair bairnes, bot four gossippis or cummeris at the maist, and that thair salbe bot sex wemen at the maist invited or employed to convoy the bairne to and fra the kirk, nather yit sall thair be any mae persones invited to any denner, supper, or eftirnoones drink at a baptisme bot sex men and sex wemen at the most; and withall, ordanis that nane presume to hawe at thair banquettis any kynd of succouris, spyceries, droggis, or confectiounes brocht from pairtis beyond sea, nather yit any kynd of wyld meat or bakin meat at thair baptismes, nor yit use at any tyme any excessive drinking or scolling, or urge thair nichtbouris to waught or scole farder nor thair plesour," under a penalty of forty pounds. (p. 391.)

At this time it was ordered that "everie magistrat and counsallar sall repair to the tounes counsal hous at all occasiounes whan the counsall sittis, with honest gownes about thame, as being the most comelie utter garment; and that on the Sabbath day lyikwayis, and on the preiching dayis in the weik, they sall sitt in thair gownes in the kirk". (p. 383.)

Other regulations on the subject of dress occur. Thus, in 1576, it was ordained that no burgess should wear a plaid from the ensuing feast of St. Martin, in all time thereafter, under a penalty of

forty shillings. Again, if he presumed to wear a "bleu bonatt," he subjected himself to a fine of five pounds. The use of the plaid by the fair sex, required revision about fifty years after this time, when the Magistrates, considering the "incivill forme of behaweour of a great manye wemen in this burght of gude qualitie, quha resortis both to kirk and mercat with thair playddis about thair headis, and be thair exampell the meaner sort of wemen uses the samen forme of incivilitie, quhilk gewis offence to strangeris, and occasioun to thame to speik reprochefullie of all wemen generallie within this burght"; (p. 373.) for remedying of which abuse, it was ordered that intimation should be given out of the pulpit, that no women, of whatever degree, should resort to kirk or market in future, having plaids about their heads, under certain penalties. But while the use of the plaid was thus proscribed to the burgesses of Aberdeen, we find the Magistrates, about twenty years after the date of the above enactments, bestowing a "propine" on the King's Justice Depute, which consisted of two of these "incivil" garments.

Item, likwayes for a pair of playdis to Mr. William Hart, his Hienes Justice Deput, ... £10 0 0

It has only to be stated, in conclusion, that it was at one time intended to print selections from the accounts of the burgh, as an appendix to the present volume. Farther consideration has induced the belief that it will be more desirable to print them in a separate volume. A few extracts, however, have been introduced into the preface, with the view of illustrating some of the notices in the text, and of indicating the nature of the accounts themselves.

JOHN STUART.

ABERDEEN, *4th November*, 1848.

CONTENTS.

CONTENTS.

			PAGE
1570—June	2,	Deliverance as to the right of the town to the ground within flood-mark	3
...	2,	Fee to the person who played on the trum	3
1571—May	31,	The Earl of Athol becomes surety for Andrew Marr, burgess	4
Feb.	28,	Isobel Robertson found to have abstracted 200 merks out of a "lokkit bonat caiss."	4
1572—March	28,	The town's title-deeds to be sent to the Castle of Dunnottar, for security in this troublous time	6
April	3,	Two Norwegians buy a boat and tackle	6
...	5,	Patrick Ballendeyne of Stenhous cleares himself of the slaughter of a burgess of Edinburgh	6
...	14,	A burgess renounces his privileges	7
Oct.	4,	600 merks granted to the support of the Earl of Huntly, and to remove the soldiers from the burgh	7
...	13,	Patrick Menzies owns receipt of 500 merks by the hands of James Gordon of Haddo	7
1573—Jan.	12,	The annual rents of chaplainries to be applied for repair of the parish church	8
...	12,	Alms to be collected for honest decayed persons, and poor persons born in the town	9
Feb.	19,	List of heirship goods	10
March	10,	Complaint to be made against the Laird of Philorth and others, for permitting a Flemish vessel to be load in the port of Faithlie	10
1574—Aug.	31,	The town agrees to give a bond of service to the Lord Regent	11
...	31,	And also, to give him a sum of money for a discharge of past crimes	12
Sept.	2,	The Regent exacts a contribution of 4000 merks	12
...	2,	Copy of the town's bond to the Regent	13
...	2,	Another bond of the town to employ 1000 merks in building an hospital for the poor	15
...	2,	The king's discharge to the burgh	16

PAGE

1574—Sept. 2, Licence to the community to abstain from passing to Edinburgh to serve on inquests..... 17
... 2, Licence to the provost, baillies, and counsell to abide from a diet of the Privy Council to which they had been summoned..... 18
... 2, Discharge to the town for assisting George, Earl of Huntly, in times past..... 18
... 2, The town's composition for their discharge of all crimes, except treason, black fishing, and magic..... 19
Oct. 8, The salary of the public reader augmented..... 20
... 8, Duties payable to the tacksman of "the Halydays fische and St. Nicholas mett."..... 20
Nov. 15, Alms to be collected weekly for the poor..... 20
... 15, All stranger beggars to be removed, and the town's beggars to wear the town's tokin..... 21
... 15, A person hired to play on the almany quhissil, accompanied by a tabroune..... 21
1575—Jan. 5, The town-clerk to record the town's charters in a volume..... 21
... 5, The Regent having assigned to the Lady Ravinscraig 500 merks of the recent tax, the town agrees to pay the same to her..... 21
Aug. 19, The chaplains resign all their property into the hands of the town, reserving their own liferent..... 22
... 19, They agree that the same be employed for upholding St. Thomas Hospital..... 23
Oct. 7, Four persons received in the hospital within St. Thomas Chapel who are to wear a garment of one colour and appearance..... 24
... 7, Forty merks yearly granted to Mr. John Craig, minister..... 24
Dec. 10, The Master of the Grammar School to have a pension of 50 merks.. 24
... 22, A privilege formerly granted to the students at the Grammar School of remaining from school from the 20th December to 7th January abrogated..... 24
1576—Jan. 25, The Deacons of certain crafts accused of holding the 25th of Dec. as a holy day, with feasting and playing. They answer that they had already purged themselves before the minister and assembly of the kirk. A penalty to be laid on those who contravene..... 25
Feb. 24, Commissioner chosen to go to Edinburgh to consult as to the contribution of 10,000 pounds granted to the Regent, and other things 26
Oct. 1, Mr. Alex. Skene, advocate and burgess of Aberdeen, allowed to be absent for three years..... 26
... 5, No burgess of guild nor deacon of craft to wear a plaid under a penalty..... 27
... 5, The Town's officers to wear halberts..... 27
... 5, The Town's landimaris to be ridden yearly..... 27

PAGE

1576—Oct. 5, Prices of mutton fixed. No beef to be sold till the Baillies have fixed the price. No fish nor flesh to be sold on Sunday till after the sermon..... 27
... 15, The craftsmen to elect their deacons yearly..... 28
Dec. 29, The Master of St. Thomas Hospital to get five merks yearly for renouncing his interest in the chapel and yard of the said hospital 28
1577—July 10, Hire of horses for leading peats fixed..... 29
Aug. 9, A fornicatrix banished from the burgh..... 29
Oct. 4, The Doctor of the Song School gets four pounds to help to buy him clothes..... 29
... 4, The person who keeps the town free from stranger beggars gets forty shillings to buy him a garment..... 29
... 8, 100 pounds received for St. Thomas Hospital..... 29
Nov. 22, In consequence of the great dearth of victuals none to be transported in future till the town be served..... 30
1578—Jan. 19, The reader and vicar of the town to receive the teinds belonging to said vicarage during his lifetime..... 31
... 26, Prices of figs and raisins fixed..... 31
Feb. 21, A burgess deprived of his freedom for reviling the baillies..... 31
Nov. 7, The swine of persons who refuse to expel them from the burgh to be destroyed by the executioner..... 32
... 15, A person convicted of forestalling by selling goods in the ports of Peterhead and Faithlie..... 32
1579—May 1, A collection for the Scotch prisoners taken by the Turks at Morocco 32
July 24, No cattle to pasture on the links..... 33
Oct. 9, The Master of the Grammar School, in consequence of the greater price of victuals, requests that the dues for scholars be augmented. His request granted..... 33
... 19, Timber of the Highlandmen not to be laid on the south of the tolbooth rail..... 33
Dec. 22, Ordinances as to admission to the crafts..... 34
1580—Jan. 9, The penalties leviable against those who wrongously pursue or defend actions, and lose their plea within burgh, let for one year..... 34
... 23, Claim of the Earl of Argyle for certain goods which belonged to John Gordon of Kinmundy.—List of said goods with their prices..... 35
March 17, The town to be fortified with certain ditches..... 37
May 13, The inhabitants informed that the King is soon to visit the burgh, and that on such occasions it had been usual to show their joy by fasceis, playeis, historeis, antics, and other decoration.—3000 merks granted to make preparation..... 37

PAGE

1580—Sept. 5, Mr. Thomas Cargill admitted to be Master of the Grammar School 38
Oct. 7, Anent the fish market, and holding of markets on Sunday 38
... 15, Prices for shoeing horses fixed 38
Dec. 1, William Jak admitted Master of St. Thomas Hospital 39
... 1, James Reid to get 20 merks for "purchessing" Mr. Alexr. Arbuthnot to be Minister of the burgh 39
... 21, In consequence of the enormities usually committed by the scholars of the grammar school about the time of Yule, no scholar to be admitted in future till he be presented to the provost and bailies, and find caution that he will obey the ordinance of council 39
1581—Feb. 13, Certain tradesmen purchase lawburrows against the provost, bailies, and community. They are declared to have lost their freedom 40
March 1, The burgesses agree to a contribution for resisting the craftsmen ... 41
April 3, No civil causes allowed to be pursued before the commissary 42
June 16, Persons throwing stones, &c., into the Trinity Burn to be fined 42
Aug. 14, The craftsmen accused of purchasing from the secreit counsel a gift and privilege prejudicial to the burgesses of guild 42
... 14, Certain craftsmen disavow all knowledge thereof. Mathew Guild, and others, adhere thereto 43
... 15, Patrick Leith, armourer, deprived of his freedom for striking William Gray with a halbert 44
... 23, None to be buried within the kirk without payment of 30 shillings, except they who have foundations in the said kirk 44
... 28, John Duncan, tailor, deprived of his freedom for raising schism and disturbance between the burgesses and craftsmen 44
Dec. 26, The disordourit scholars of the Grammar School having taken the school, meaning to have the old privilege at Yule, it is ordained that no such privilege be granted, but that they shall have three days holydays in the beginning of every quarter 45
1582—March 23, Walter Cullen to be paid the balance of his fee for reading of the prayers in the afternoon 45
Sept. 14, Obligation to pay Mr. Peter Blakburne, minister, his yearly stipend of 300 merks out of the thirds of the Bishoprick of Aberdeen 46
... 14, He is to get 100 merks also from the town 46
... 14, The town receives Mr. Blakburne as Minister, and ratified the articles anent true religion presented by Mr John Craig, sometime Minister of the burgh 46
Oct. 1, Certain craftsmen refuse to vote in the election of magistrates 46

PAGE

1582—Nov. 26, Expense to be provided for of Commissioner to France for getting a reduction of the new customs in France..... 47
Dec. 5, Contract anent the town's three clocks..... 47
... 17, Punishment of Thomas Kelly for "strubling" Annabell Kelly..... 47
... 17, Robert Menzeis elected Master of the Town's Hospital..... 48
... 17, Punishment of William Ronaldsone for slander..... 48
1583—Jan. 3, No drinking of gild wine to be in tyme coming..... 48
April 25, Aid to a school for young children..... 49
May 10, No money allowed to be received by the inhabitants for buying of goods for extranears..... 49
... 13, Fees to be received by shore porters..... 49
Aug. 9, No sheep skins to be sent to any port in Flanders for six months... 50
1584—July 10, Sacristan of the Parish Kirk chosen. His duties and fees..... 50
... 10, John Roray readmitted a burgess..... 51
Sept. 28, Ordinance for avoiding of the pestilence..... 52
Oct. 14, All householders to attend sermons on Tuesday and Thursday under a penalty..... 54
... 14, Ordinance against forestallers..... 54
... 14, Statute against the extortion of weavers..... 55
1585—March 29, Ordinance anent burials within the kirk..... 55
May 21, Ordinance anent the plague..... 56
... 27, Contraveners thereof punished..... 57
Oct. 4, Magistrates to remain in office for one year only..... 57
... 8, Stipend to be paid to a second minister..... 57
1586—Jan. 10, Price of building the Justice Port to be paid..... 58
April 13, The Council to meet weekly on Wednesday..... 58
... 29, A school, without licence of the master of the grammar school, prohibited..... 58
Oct. 7, The bow brig to be built with a bow of estlair..... 59
1587—April 27, The town agrees to a tax for an ambassador to Denmark..... 59
July 20, No beggar to sit in the kirk or kirkyard hereafter..... 60
Aug. 14, Master of the Song School admitted..... 60
1588—Jan. 22, A stent agreed to (under protest) for paying the town's proportion of expense of furnishing out a ship of war for pursuing English pirates..... 60
June 7, An encroachment found at the Netherkirkgate port..... 61
Oct. 4, Inhabitants again ordained to attend church instead of "gaming and playing, passing to tavernis and ailhoussis"..... 62
Nov. 20, The town not to be warned to public meetings unless by desire of the Council..... 62
1589—Feb. 13, All questions between the town and the Laird of Balquhyn to be settled..... 63

PAGE

1589—May 5, The powder and iron work furnished to the King to be sold..... 64
June 18, Grass on the links and other places to be kept for "his hienes liegis that ar to be heir schortlie"..... 64
... 18, A pair of butts for serving the king and noblemen in his company allowed to be erected..... 64
Aug. 6, Payments to be made to the Justice Clerk for his good-will at the ensuing Justice Court, as also to the Clerks of the Justice Courts..... 65
Sept. 3, A custodier of the "lockit buik" containing the charters of the chaplainries of the parish kirk appointed..... 65
... 24, The Grammar School to be repaired..... 66
Nov. 26, The master of kirk work gets the "lokit buik"..... 66
Dec. 12, The scholars of the Grammar School to find caution for good order, and that no disorder be used in taking the school at the superstitious time of Yule..... 66
1590—March 31, Baillie Colleson to pass to Denmark with the ship sent by this burgh to convey the Queen to this country..... 67
April 6, The provost ordered to put the town's cannon called "the Falcon" on board of the "Nicolas" bound for Denmark..... 67
... 27, A wapinschaw ordered to be held..... 67
Oct. 14, 40 hagbutters to be furnished by the town to the Earl Marischal to recover the House of Deer taken by Mr. Robert Keith..... 68
Nov. 26, Grass on the links rouped..... 68
... 26, Also the chapel on the castle hill..... 69
... 26, And the grass of the loch..... 69
1591—Jan. 8, The Laird of Frendraught's servants accused of disturbing the town 69
... 18, The town's officers to keep the key of the tolbooth..... 69
Feb. 15, A charter chest ordered for keeping the town's charters..... 70
April 2, The fishers of Futtie to be poyndit as often as they fail to go to sea in time of good weather..... 70
... 15, Titles of a land lying without Futty port to be produced..... 70
May 19, A leper admitted into the leper house..... 70
June 8, Punishment for the crime of incest..... 71
July 28, Expense of executing letters at the instance of the Provost and Baillies against the Commissary..... 72
Nov. 8, Contribution for the raid to the Isles refused, and forty soldiers to be furnished..... 72
1592—April 14, Penalties for swearing..... 73
... 14, Certain fishers in Futtie convicted of cutting a lobster net at the Grey Hope..... 74
1593—Jan. 6, William Murdo found to be a "blasphemous heretyk" and banished from the burgh..... 75

PAGE

1593—Jan. 8, The burgh to be watched nightly..... 76
... 10, The town warned to convene and give their oaths for maintenance of true religion..... 77
... 31, A water baillie appointed..... 77
... 31, Ordinance anent the revenues of the alterages within the Parish Kirk..... 78
Feb. 21, A propine to be given to the King at his coming to this burgh..... 79
June 18, James Forbes of Tulliboy, elected Economus of Marischal College 79
... 25, Servants engaging to two masters to be put in "the govis." 80
July 11, The steeple of the tolbooth to be repaired..... 80
... 18, Certain ships from Norway unloading at Newburgh to be arrested 81
... 18, The Sweschman to have a red garment..... 81
... 31, Certain lawless Highlanders in Birss, &c., having plundered the neighbourhood, provision is made for defence of the town..... 82
... 31, Tax Roll of the Burghs for their proportion of a General Tax to the King..... 83
Oct. 8, None to be allowed to remain in the burgh who has not some known means of living..... 84
... 17, No feal to be cast on the Inches or Links for 3 years..... 85
Nov. 26, Dues to be exacted for the town's seals..... 86
Dec. 8, Proclamation of the Whitsunday fair to endure for 8 days..... 87
... 24, Articles of the privy inquest of boroughs..... 87
... 24, A contribution to three Hungarians taken prisoners by the Turks... 89
1594—Feb. 22, Rejoicings to be held for the birth of a Prince..... 90
March 22, A school for teaching grammar to be shut from want of the licence of the master of the grammar school..... 90
May 8, Spears to be made..... 91
July 16, A ship from Calais with three suspected papists on board to be sent to his Majesty..... 91
... 17, The three strangers to be put in prison as the ship was detained by contrary winds..... 92
... 18, A commissioner sent to apprise his Majesty that Mr. James Gordon and the three strangers are in prison..... 92
... 19, The town delivers up the three strangers to the Earls of Huntly, Angus, and Errol..... 93
Aug. 14, Punishment for scandal..... 93
Sept. 16, Two pieces of artillery called half-slungs to be repaired..... 93
... 30, A lodging to be prepared for the provost..... 94
Oct. 5, Assignation and discharge of the town's proportion of the King's tocher..... 94
... 25, Discharge of the town's proportion of a tax for furnishing the King with men of war..... 99

PAGE

1594—Oct. 25, Licence to the town to remain from the present host..... 101
... 25, Discharge to the town relative to Mr. James Gordon and the three strangers..... 101
... 25, Obligation by the King and Council to re-deliver to the town certain quantities of powder and machines borrowed by his Majesty..... 102
Nov. 15, Roup of the grass on the links..... 103
... 15, Roup of the chapel on the Castlehill..... 103
... 15, Roup of other parts of the town's property..... 103
Dec. 13, A stent to be made for paying 200 merks to the Duke of Lennox—also to pay for the propine to his Majesty when in this burgh—and to pay the stipend of Mr. Peter Blackburn..... 104
... 13, Licence to the town to remain from the raid to the Isles..... 105
1595—Feb. 10, The Duke of Lennox made a burgess—profession of his religion... 106
... 10, Sir Robert Melvill and others admitted to be burgesses..... 106
... 14, Remission to the town for certain crimes..... 107
... 28, Fine for overcharge on wine..... 107
March 14, His Majesty's letter for carrying the Earls of Huntly and Errol beyond seas..... 107
April 15, A pair of joggis to be made..... 108
... 18, Thomas Borthik acknowledges that he troubled the town..... 108
May 15, Two persons convicted of drawing their swords and quhingers..... 109
... 16, Alex. Paterson convicted of "unnaturall misbehaviour" to another merchant..... 110
... 28, A burgess of Irvine, "herreit" by the Irishmen, gets relief..... 110
June 2, Bounds of the Gallowhill croft set..... 110
... 30, The lands of Capristoun to be bought..... 111
July 2, The town's part of penalties for slaying black or red fish granted to the Sheriff Depute..... 111
... 3, Owners of salmon fishings to be paid their mail salmon out of the first and readiest..... 112
... 9, The steeple of the Gray Friar kirk to be repaired 114
... 12, An encroachment on the kirkyard..... 114
... 16, 100 merks voted to Lord Forbes as a remembrance of the town's goodwill..... 115
Aug. 6, The treasurer to furnish bread and wine for the Communion..... 115
... 27, A suspension to be procured of the charge against the town to apprehend Lord Forbes..... 115
Sept. 10, Two shipwrecked Danes to be relieved..... 115
... 10, The town's post to have a garment..... 116
... 10, The reader's salary augmented..... 116
... 17, A contribution for the repair of St. Machar's kirk..... 116
... 17, Halls of wood to be erected for the meal market..... 116

PAGE

1595—Nov. 12, The sacristan to have a gown of self black..... 117
... 17, The town to be divided into four congregations..... 117
... 17, Mr. Blakburn's expenses for going to Edinburgh to be paid..... 118
... 25, The grass on the Links to be kept for the Convention of Burghs and General Assembly soon to meet..... 118
Dec. 1, Law plea between the Earl Marischal and Menzies of Pitfoddles... 119
... 17, Payments to the Bishop for his seal to the town's charter of Capraston..... 120
... 17, Thomas Gordon hired to "reull the town's knockis"..... 120
... 24, A writing booth to be procured for the Town Clerk..... 120
1596—Jan. 8, Discharge by Gardyn of Banchory, to certain burgesses, for breaking down the walls of his house..... 121
... 12, Wapinschaw intimated..... 122
... 20, Sir John Carmichael, knight, made a burgess..... 123
... 23, Provision to be made for the poor divided into four classes..... 124
Feb. 11, The inhabitants to be trained to carry arms..... 124
... 14, The Earl Marischal's concurrence asked in apprehending Thomas Sutherland for carrying Mr. Walter Lindsay to Spain..... 125
March 15, The town troubled by a contest between certain inhabitants with a sword and quhinger..... 126
... 22, Provision anent the purchase of onion seed..... 127
... 23, An encroachment found to have been made on St. Katherine's Hill after probation..... 127
... 24, A measure to be sent for to Linlithgow..... 131
June 3, Proclamation against wearing of pistols and other weapons..... 131
... 7, An attack on the mainmast of the ship called the "Gift of God"... 132
... 7, Certain non-resident burgesses who had been charged to make actual residence under the penalty of forfeiting their freedom are declared to have incurred that penalty..... 133
... 23, The carved work in the choir of the kirk to be removed and so placed that the choir may be made "ane preiching kirk"..... 135
... 29, A supper to be given to the Commissioners of Burghs..... 136
... 29, Expenses of repairs to the tolbooth to be allowed..... 136
July 7, The wall for dividing the kirk and choir to be erected..... 136
... 9, A commissioner sent to Edinburgh for dealing with the King on various matters..... 137
.. 9, No craftsman to be made a burgess till he swear to observe the contract betwixt the burgesses and craftsmen..... 137
... 9, Decreet arbitral anent the votes of craftsmen in the election of magistrates..... 138
Aug. 6, A post to be sent to Edinburgh as to his Majesty's desire for 500 men to be furnished by the burghs for passing to the Isles..... 139

PAGE

1596—Aug. 13, A commissioner to be sent to his Majesty on the same subject..... 139
... 25, A tax for paying the town's proportion of expense of raid to the Isles..... 141
... 25, Expense of apprehending forestallers at the winter and summer markets to be paid..... 142
Sept. 2, Report of the Commissioner sent to his Majesty..... 143
... 2, Mr. Quintin Preston, professor of physic, gets liberty to have an apothecary and shop..... 144
... 2, No one to consult John Gordon now confined as a witch..... 144
... 14, Division of the town into two quarters..... 145
... 16, Expenses of rejoicing at the nativity of Prince Henry to be paid... 146
... 20, Duty on foreign onions to be paid..... 146
... 20, A garment to be provided for the town's post..... 147
Nov. 22, Renunciation in favour of the town of St. Salvator's altar..... 147
1597—Jan. 12, A wapinschaw to be held..... 148
... 14, Regulations as to selling wine..... 149
... 16, Order to be taken for provision for the poor..... 149
... 28, A voluntary contribution for them..... 149
... 28, A man and his wife banished from the burgh for theft..... 150
... 28, The porter of the college to be paid for ringing the Greyfriars' bell 150
Feb. 18, John Justice chosen as executioner..... 150
April 4, The four mills of the burgh to be bought from Menzies of Pitfoddels..... 151
... 25, Commissioners elected to settle the marches between the town's lands and those of Stoneywood..... 151
... 25, The town agrees to buy the place of the Trinity friars..... 152
May 4, A wooden house to be built for an office to the town clerk..... 152
Aug. 31, No school to be within the burgh (except the Music School) without licence of the Master of the Grammar School..... 154
Sept. 7, Provisions for eschewing plague..... 154
... 21, The dean of gild gets an allowance for his extraordinary pains in burning a great number of witches, &c..... 155
... 21, The gild wine silver to be bestowed on honest decayed burgesses... 155
... 21, The town's servant gets an allowance for waiting on the witches... 156
... 26, The town clerk gets an allowance for framing a register of the annuals from the chaplainries, and his pains about the witches.. 156
Nov. 23, The Master of the Song School to serve both kirks "in vptacking of the psalme" every Sunday..... 157
1598—Jan. 25, A sun dial to be erected on the town house wall..... 158
... 25, Reward to a pilot for a sea chart presented to the town..... 158
Feb. 17, Commission for settling rights of priority in parliaments and conventions..... 159

PAGE

1598—March 16, An encroachment on the town's property at the Castlehill..... 160
April 24, No burgess to wear a blue bonnet under a penalty..... 161
Sept. 22, Various gifts by the toun..... 161
... 26, A silver case to be presented to Mr. Robert Howie..... 164
... 26, Prices of gold and silver proclaimed at Edinburgh..... 164
Oct. 2, Fines for absence from courts to be increased..... 165
... 2, Letters sent to Mr. Robert Howie, Mr. Andrew Melvil, and Mr. John Johnston..... 166
... 4, Statute for keeping of the sermons..... 166
... 4, No market to be on Sunday in time of sermon..... 167
... 4, Provisions against forestallers..... 167
... 4, Regulations for Stablers charges..... 169
... 11, Wine and desert to be given to Lord Fyvie on his being made a burgess..... 169
... 11, A bearer of the hand bell chosen..... 169
... 13, Lord Fyvie, William Forbes of Tolquhon, Alexander Burnett of Leys, George Abercromby of Overcarden, and others, admitted burgesses..... 170
... 25, Entry dues of burgesses heightened..... 171
... 25, John Thomson and spouse only to teach "maidyne bairnis"..... 171
... 25, Certain offenders to be burned on the cheek..... 171
... 27, Provisions as to the sale of mussels..... 172
... 30, Ordinance to the keeper of the ferry boat at Futty..... 172
Nov. 9, Provisions anent a riot between Cheyn of Essilmont and Keiths of Ludquharne..... 172
... 10, The town to be armed to keep peace between the Earl Marischal and Gordon apparent of Cairnborrow,..... 173
... 15, An interim master of the song school elected..... 174
... 15, Expenses of charging freeholders on the Dee and Don to find caution against slaying salmon in forbidden time..... 174
Dec. 8, Mr. John Skene, clerk register, threatens horning against the town for not buying his Acts of Parliament—they agree to take fifty copies..... 175
... 13, Wine and spicery to the Bishop of Aberdeen..... 175
... 13, Wine and spicery to the Duke of Lennox and Earl of Huntly, according to the custom of the burgh "in all ages"..... 175
... 13, The grammar school to be repaired..... 176
1599—Feb. 7, George Strachan, sometime Baillie, gets support in consequence of his ship being taken by the Spaniards..... 176
March 14, The chapel on the Castlehill to be painted..... 176
... 14, Prayer to be said on the day of the election of the magistrates..... 177
... 28, Wine and spicery to the Earl of Huntly..... 177

PAGE

1599—April 6, Cumfittis, &c., to the Countess Marischal..... 177
... 6, Certain fleshers convicted of selling flesh between 1st March and 1st May..... 178
... 16, Wapinschaw to be held..... 178
... 16, The townsmen to ride the marches armed..... 178
... 16, A pastime day to be held every Monday..... 179
... 16, The court day changed from Monday to Tuesday and Friday..... 180
... 18, A disjoyne to Mr. Charles Ferme..... 180
... 28, The protocol books of the late town clerk delivered up..... 180
... 30, Certain inhabitants convicted for troubling the town..... 181
May 9, Forty shillings given to pay a barber for curing a wound received at the wapinschaw..... 181
... 9, The causeway passing to the Cruvis to be repaired..... 181
... 9, 80 pounds given for the protocol books of the late town clerk..... 182
... 9, William Skene convicted of assaulting Mr Robert Chalmers..... 183
... 15, Slanderers punished..... 184
... 15, Complaint that Patrick Annand, younger of Auchterellon, and others, broke the ranks at the wapinschaw—a burgess who took part with Annand convicted for not taking part with the town..... 184
... 23, Lord Orkney's trumpeter gets a crown of the sun..... 186
June 15, A fast to be held for entreating for "seasonable weather and dropping showers of rain"..... 186
... 20, Twenty pounds given for "ane orlage" in the clerk's chamber..... 187
... 22, Certain encroachments noticed..... 187
July 12, Mr. Greir to be paid for coming to preach..... 188
... 13, The town having heard Mr. Greir preach, resolve to request his transportation..... 188
... 18, His Majesty writes of his wish to have a conservator of Scotch privileges in London..... 189
... 23, The town thinks the measure unnecessary, and are to oppose it—a commissioner is sent to the convention of burghs to oppose it 190
... 23, The burgesses refuse to contribute the commissioner's expenses..... 191
... 25, A prorogation of the wapinschaw to be purchased..... 192
Aug. 6, The heir of the late John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, elects Mr. Gavin Leslie as his procurator..... 192
Sept. 5, Commissioners named to meet the Laird of Cluny as to differences with the Old Town..... 193
... 5, Mr. George Grier is asked to accept the vacant office of a minister of the burgh—he is not so loving towards accepting the charge as could be wished..... 193
... 5, New commissioners named to search for a suitable minister..... 194

PAGE

1599—Sept. 11, The commissioners report that they had heard Mr. James Ross, minister of Strachan.—The town declare their satisfaction with him.—The Bishop gives his consent.—Mr. Ross accepts the charge... 195

... 12, The Kirkhouse occupied by James Tod, reader, to be repaired..... 198

... 18, Proceedings as to a settlement of the dispute with Old Aberdeen..... 198

... 20, John Gordon of Tullielt finds caution to bestow 40 pounds in repairing the aisle of the Kirk of Tarves, and also to make his repentance in the Kirks of Tarves and Methlick..... 201

... 24, Various gifts by the town to its servants..... 201

Oct. 6, The town declines to judge of various charges against John Hutcheon, as being "meir spirituall and ecclesiastic"..... 203

... 6, Hutcheon accused as an unlawful neighbour.—He agrees to be banished if found guilty again..... 203

1600—Jan. 17, The dean of gild to defray the expense of a "disjoyne" to the bishop and clergy..... 204

... 17, Patrick Walter to be paid for uptacking of the psalm..... 204

... 19, Thomas Lorne accused of "hearing of spreittis," and wavering from his wife, bairns, and familie.—He agrees to suffer death if found guilty again..... 204

Feb. 7, Anent just measures in selling wine, ale, or beer..... 204

... 21, Expense of painting the clerk's chamber to be paid..... 205

... 21, Commissioners chosen anent the sending of an Ambassador to France to renew the old leagues..... 205

... 21, The commission for trying witches and sorcerers to be prosecuted... 205

March 23, Exemption from the Earl of Huntly's jurisdiction as sheriff to be purchased..... 206

... 23, Intimation made of an act of Privy Council appointing the year to commence on the first day of January..... 206

... 23, Lights to be furnished to the herssis pulpit and reader's lattroun in the kirk..... 207

April 15, Masters of households, with their wives, children, and servants, to be catechised each Thursday..... 208

May 22, Regulations for the fishers of Futtie for feeing their servants..... 208

... 22, Any inhabitant of Futtie who cuts the ropes of vessels in the harbour, to be tied to a stake within the flood mark for three hours, and then scourged and banished from the burgh..... 209

... 22, The fishers in Futtie are ordered to hear sermons on Sunday, and to abstain from selling fish on that day..... 210

... 22, The owners of boats to pay to the tacksman the teind of all fish taken 210

July 1, The provost calls for a taxation to purchase an exemption from the raid to Kintire and the Isles..... 210

PAGE

1600—July 9, A person unable to pay his fine to be put in the stocks for 24 hours, and thereafter into the jogs for 6 hours..... 213
... 14, Wapinschaw held..... 214
Sept. 23, The merchands' box to be instituted for decayed brethren..... 215
... 23, Goddis pennies to be given to the box..... 216
Dec. 3, A public fast on Sunday in consequence of the plague..... 216
1601—March 20, Ordinance for preventing disputes among the fishers of Futtie as to their rights of fishing..... 216
April 8, Dr. Cargill to take trial of the skill of two chirurgians..... 218
Aug. 4, Intimation made of the yearly thanksgiving to be held on the 5th of August for his Majesty's delivery from the traitor Gowrie..... 219
... 4, No market to be held on that day or labour done, and the magistrates to sing psalms through the streets..... 221
Sept. 22, Mr. Thomas Cargill rewarded for his congratulatory treatise in Latin as to his Majesty's delivery..... 222
Oct. 9, The king's servants who play comedies and stage plays in the burgh to be paid..... 222
Nov. 4, Two persons who were found drinking in time of sermon are banished..... 222
1602—Feb. 6, Mr. David Wedderburn and Mr. Thomas Reid are elected masters of the grammar school..... 223
... 17, William Skene found guilty of using pistols and dags, and firing at one of the officers of the burgh..... 224
April 7, Marjorie Urquhart gets licence to be interred in the south aisle..... 226
... 13, Ordinances renewed anent attendance at sermons on Sundays and week days, and other matters..... 226
... 13, No peats to be brought to the burgh on the Sabbath day..... 227
June 15, Jane Wischart convicted of slander..... 228
Aug. 4, The thanksgiving to be observed on the fifth of August..... 228
... 18, A Commissioner sent to the Marquis of Huntly for information as to the raid to the Lewis..... 228
... 23, Provisions for a ship in the harbour suspected of plague..... 229
... 24, A discharge to the town of passing to the Lewis to be purchased... 230
... 25, The Town Clerk is employed to pass to his Majesty to compound for said discharge..... 233
Sept. 7, He reports his diligence..... 234
Oct. 20, Several merchants confined in the Blockhouse through fear of pestilence are allowed their freedom..... 234
... 20, Richard Williamson convicted as an unlawful neighbour..... 235
Dec. 8, A windmill to be erected at the Gallowgate port..... 235
1603—March 30, Intimation given of his Majesty's accession to the English throne. The town go to church thereafter and drink wine at the cross... 236

PAGE

1603—April 1, A commissioner sent to Edinburgh to consult with the other burghs as to necessary things for their welfare before his Majesty's departure for England..... 237
... 20, Mr. David Wedderburn intimates that he is to enter on the functions of the ministry..... 238
... 20, The loch to be made dry..... 239
... 22, Sir Michael Balfour of Burly, having letters charging certain burgesses to receive various pieces of armour, agrees to receive payment for forty-five complete suits of armour..... 240
... 26, The suits of armour are distributed..... 241
July 30, A missive from the privy council anent three priests who attempted his Majestie's life, intimated..... 242
Sept. 6, A missive from the King read..... 243
... 7, Mr. David Wedderburn having relinquished his intention of entering the ministry, is reinstated as one of the masters of the Grammar School..... 244
Oct. 11, A commission for punishing those with death or otherwise, who infringe the statutes about the plague, to be purchased..... 245
... 12, Mr. Thomas Reid admitted as one of the regents of the college, and Mr. David Wedderburn gets the sole charge of the grammar school, at certain rates..... 246
... 26, Quartermasters elected to assist the magistrates in providing against the pest..... 247
Nov. 15, The Earl Marischal becomes surety for certain gentlemen of the name of Keith to Mr. James Forbes, brother of the Laird of Corsinday, and others..... 248
... 20, Application to be made to the secret council anent stopping the feuds which arose from the "clannit men" who came to the burgh.....249
1604—Jan. 2, Sixteen men to pass to the siege of the house of Drumbreck..... 250
... 10, Provisions against the practices of the scholars of the grammar school at the superstitious time of Yule..... 251
... 10, None to walk on the streets after ten o'clock at night 251
... 10, A watch to be kept by reason of the idle men who are bound to Flanders to the wars..... 252
... 18, James Cheyne of Straloch convicted of attacking the Commissary of Aberdeen with a sword..... 252
Feb. 3, Captain Cheyne of Straloch finds caution that he shall not attack the servant of the Earl Marischal..... 253
May 8, Ordinances for eschewing the plague renewed..... 253
... 8, Royal commission to the provost and bailies for making acts against the plague..... 255

PAGE

1604—June 4, Expense of sending hagbutters to the siege of the house of Drumbreck.... 256
... 4, Ordinances anent the plague intimated of new.... 257
July 16, The provost is chosen one of the commissioners for going to England anent a union of the kingdoms.—A tax levied to pay his expenses.... 257
... 16, Commission granted to treat on the matter of the union of England and Scotland.... 259
Oct. 3, Sum raised for support of Geneva to be lent out.... 262
... 24, Mr. David Wedderburn convicted of exacting various dues from the scholars on the plea of ancient custom.... 262
... 24, Regulations anent these dues in time coming.... 264
Dec. 5, A commissioner sent to the Marquis of Huntly regarding the ruinous state of the Bridge of Don.... 265
... 8, The watching of the ports to cease.... 265
1605—March 22, The harbour mouth to be watched.... 265
May 1, The noblemen and barons to be applied to for subscriptions for repairing the Bridge of Don.... 266
... 1, The kirk lodge to be converted into schools.... 267
... 1, Punishment for assault.... 267
... 13, The town agrees to contribute five hundred pounds for the repair of the Bridge of Don.... 268
... 29, A privy inquest to be chosen for accusing unworthy neighbours.... 269
... 29, Letters for a new parliament proclaimed, and a commissioner chosen.... 269
June 21, A harlot banished from the burgh.... 270
... 28, The sum contributed for Geneva being now not wanted, is to be laid out on the repairs of the Bridge of Don.... 271
... 28, Provision for the fee of the keeper of the town's clocks.... 272
Aug. 14, None to go to St. Bartholomew's fair at Kincardine, for fear of pestilence.... 273
Sept. 4, A woman who had been banished is, on her petition, allowed to come back to the burgh.... 274
... 18, The Justice Port to be opened.... 275
Oct. 3, The money raised for the Bridge of Don to be lent out.... 275
... 11, An encroachment on the Justice Port.... 276
... 18, James Watt strikes William Ingram with his sword, and "flogs him therewith on the wymb;" he is guilty also of contempt of court; he is convicted.... 276
Nov. 15, Rejoicings for his Majesty's escape from the Gunpowder Plot.... 278
Dec. 4, The town's privileges invaded by the erection of Fraserburgh into a burgh of barony.... 279

PAGE

1605—Dec. 4, A declarator to be pursued on the town's charters..... 280
1606—Feb. 26, Alexander Davidson is allowed to build a ship in the kirkyard of Trinity Friars..... 280
March 10, No flesh to be eaten in time of lent, nor on certain days thereafter, in all time coming..... 281
April 1, Gilbert Kempt agrees to be burned on the cheek and banished if he again transgresses..... 281
... 1, The town concurs in proceedings against Leith of Harthill for exorbitant duties charged at St. Lawrence fair at Old Rain..... 282
... 16, The brazen cock of the steeple to be sent to Flanders..... 283
May 3, King Alexander's charter to be sent to Edinburgh in the matter of Fraserburgh 284
... 28, Lead to be procured for repair of the parish kirk..... 285
... 28, A commissioner chosen to the Parliament..... 285
July 19, Nobody dwelling in the country to repair to the burgh under pain of death on account of the plague..... 286
Dec. 26, No wine, ale, or beer, to be sold after 10 o'clock at night..... 286
... 26, The ports to be opened in consequence of the disappearance of plague..... 287
1607—Feb. 18, Margaret Panton banished as an unlawful neighbour..... 287
March 24, The expense of commissioners to England and France as to the privileges of the Scotch and English in France to be paid..... 288
April 20, None to go south for fear of plague, which is again broken out..... 289
... 22, Watching of the town resumed..... 289
May 3, No nuisances to be kept in Greyfriars kirk..... 290
... 15, Two burgesses convicted of trubling the town..... 291
July 29, Proclamation for a wapinschaw..... 291
Sept. 9, No turf to be dug on the Inches..... 292
... 11, Commissioners to the Privy Council for taking order with many idle and debauched people living in the town..... 292
Oct. 7, An Englishman craves to be allowed to teach writing and arithmetic..... 293
... 7, The town wishes to be relieved of the necessity of apprehending and imprisoning of "clannit gentlemen," on account of the power of these parties..... 294
... 23, No lint to be "dichted" except on daylight..... 295
Dec. 8, Various taxes imposed by Parliament to be paid..... 295
1608—Feb. 4, The banishment of Gilbert Kempt renewed..... 295
April 20, A commissioner to be sent to the Privy Council for a discharge from the raid to the Isles..... 296
May 11, The kirk officer's fees augmented..... 297
... 24, Proclamation anent wapinschawing read..... 298

PAGE

1609—Aug. 9, None to be admitted to the Grammar School and Song School, till they find caution for their behaviour..... 298
1610—Aug. 15, Contract for building the Bow Bridge..... 299
Dec. 12, Instructions to the commissioners for keeping his Majesty's peace in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen..... 301
1611—Aug. 7, Wapinschaw to be held..... 304
... 14, Day for wapinschaw prorogated..... 304
Sept. 2, Proceedings at the wapinschaw..... 305
1612—Jan. 7, A jail to be built in consequence of the expected increase of prisoners from the Commission to Justices of the Peace..... 306
July 10, Wapinschaw intimated..... 307
... 17, Proceedings at the wapinschaw..... 307
Oct. 7, A leper admitted to the leper house..... 308
Dec 3, Sundry scholars at the Grammar School accused by the Provost of many enormities and disorders..... 308
... 4, Those who took the school ordered to be excluded from all the town's schools..... 310
... 4, Provision to be made against taking of the school at the superstitious time of Yule..... 312
... 5, Gordon of Birsmoir convicted of pursuing the master of the writing school with a sword..... 312
... 5, Gordon finds caution that he shall not hurt the said writing master 313
... 23, The masters of the schools to be held responsible for their scholars 313
1613—Feb. 8, John Gordon, brother to the laird of Birsmoir, with his accomplices, attacks and wounds the master of the writing school with dirks and batons—A complaint to be made to the Privy Council..... 314
... 19, Expenses of charging Gordon of Birsmoir and others to be paid... 315
... 19, Commissioners named to appear before the Privy Council regarding the process against Gordon of Birsmoir, and also the process for the town's share of the expence of prosecuting Starcovius, a German..... 316
... 24, Gordon of Cluny becomes caution that his brother, Gordon of Birsmoir, shall satisfy the town, and the master of the grammar school..... 317
... 24, Gordon of Birsmoir ordained to pay 200 merks, and to ask pardon in the kirk..... 319
Sept. 4, Wapinschaw to be held..... 319
1614—Jan. 12, Mortification by William Gordon, Bishop of Aberdeen, for a provostry in St. Nicholas kirk to be recorded..... 320
1615—March 29, Farther proceedings about building a jail..... 321
... 29, A loft to be built in the south side of the kirk..... 321
June 15, Riding of the town's outer marches..... 322

PAGE

1615—June 21, Proceedings for procuring a Principal to Marischal College..... 326
... 21, Mr Patrick Copland intimates his intention of founding four bursaries. The town requests him to provide rather for the principal and masters of the college..... 327
July 26, Mr David Wedderburne rewarded for teaching the high class of the college..... 328
Aug. 7, Proceedings at the wapinschaw..... 328
Sept. 21, Sir James Skene of Curriehill, and others, admitted burgesses..... 329
1616—Feb. 4, An advocation at the town's instance, concerning the jurisdiction of the Admiralty to be pursued..... 330
... 7, Commissioners to deal with Thomas Watson, mason in Rayne, for building the wardhouse..... 331
March 3, Various legacies by Dr. Cargill to the poor, the hospital, and the grammar school, intimated..... 331
... 5, Farther proceedings anent the building of the wardhouse..... 334
... 5, Proceedings anent the tax for carrying on the process with Fraserburgh..... 336
... 6, The contract for building the wardhouse..... 338
April 3, A new banner for the town to be made..... 345
June 26, The Bridge of Don to be causewayed..... 345
... 26, The oath to be taken by burgesses..... 345
July 31, A general assembly intimated to be held in Aberdeen..... 346
Aug. 28, A petition from the principal of the college anent the dyke of the college yard..... 346
Sept. 24, The town consents to receive Mr. William Forbes as one of their ministers..... 347
1617—Jan. 7, They become bound for his stipend..... 347
... 7, The Grey Friar kirk to be repaired and used for prayers..... 348
Feb. 12, A commissioner sent to the two archbishops for a ratification of the pension granted to one of their ministers out of the archbishoprick..... 349
... 18, Letter from the privy council as to preparations for his Majesty's expected visit..... 349
March 19, The ports and the causeways to be repaired..... 350
May 21, Letter, Mr. Patrick Copland, along with his mortification for a Professor of Theology..... 351
... 28, Various gentlemen in his Majesty's suite admitted burgesses..... 352
June 4, Forbes of Towie to ask pardon of the master of the grammar school for giving him "ane cuff" in the school..... 353
Oct. 8, Ordinance for keeping of the sermons on Sundays..... 354
1618—March 11, Petition from a maker of virginals to be allowed to carry on his trade without payment of dues..... 355

PAGE

1618—April 8, Henry Buchan convicted of assaulting one of the bailies, and is deprived of his freedom 356
May 13, Adam Gordon of Park and others admitted burgesses..... 357
Sept. 18, Two wrights in armour admitted burgesses on certain conditions... 358
... 30, A clockmaker to be brought from the south..... 358
1619—March 24, Freestone for the wardhouse to be brought from Dundee..... 358
... 24, Ordinance as to payment of fees to the masters of the grammar school..... 359
May 9, The ports of the town to be repaired..... 359
June 4, A taxation for support of the poor, besides other funds 359
... 5, The wife of the principal of the college convicted of assault..... 361
Aug. 4, A lodging and provisions to be prepared for the Duke of Lennox... 361
... 14, Several noblemen and gentlemen made burgesses..... 362
... 18, Those absent from the wapinschaw to be poinded..... 362
Sept. 4, Several gentlemen admitted to be burgesses..... 363
... 20, Several noblemen and gentlemen admitted to be burgesses..... 363
Oct. 27, After trial two bursars admitted on Dr. Liddel's foundation..... 364
... 27, The edict for a learned mathematician to be printed..... 365
Nov. 12, Several gentlemen were convicted for troubling the town, and threatening the inhabitants..... 365
1620—Feb. 10, Mr. David Wedderburn for various causes asks for an increase of stipend..... 366
... 10, His request is granted.—He is to teach a lesson of humanity in the college.—He is also to compose verses if required 367
... 16, The humanity lesson in the college to be taught on Friday after morning prayer 369
... 25, The wives of three burgesses fined for having a desert at the lyk-wakes of their husbands..... 369
... 27, Several burgesses admitted..... 369
March 1, Mr. William Forbes to be dealt with to become Primar of the College..... 369
Aug. 1, Several burgesses admitted..... 370
... 24, Several burgesses admitted..... 371
1621—April 10, Provisions for support of the poor..... 372
June 6, A statute against women who wear plaids about their heads..... 373
1622—March 14, Several burgesses admitted..... 374
April 3, Addition made to the stipend of Mr. James Ross..... 374
... 25, The Master of the Grammar School to be paid for the board of a son of the late John Welsch, minister at Ayr..... 375
May 15, The work of the tolbooth steeple to be proceeded with..... 376
July 3, A loan to be got for said work from the Master of the Hospital..... 376
Aug. 5, Mr. Arthur Johnston admitted burgess..... 377

PAGE

1622—Aug. 14, A letter from the Privy Council as to choosing magistrates for the ensuing year.... 377
... 31, Sir John Scot of Scotistarvet admitted burgess.... 377
Sept. 24, Burgess admitted.... 378
Oct. 2, Councillors absent from meetings to be fined.... 378
Nov. 6, Ordinance against the custom of having two handbells at funerals... 378
... 16, Stones borrowed for the tolbooth steeple to be repaid.... 379
... 27, Visitors of the schools chosen, who are to visit them once in the month.... 379
1623—Jan. 1, Account paid for bigging the tolbooth steeple.... 379
... 29, Mr. Alexander Wedderburn admitted to a bursary.... 380
Feb. 12, A candidate for the office of drummer after trial is admitted.... 381
... 14, One of the town's houses let to Edward Raban, printer.... 382
... 14, Statute against keeping of cur dogs.... 382
March 12, The councillors to have honest gowns about them at meetings of council.... 383
April 2, The Grammar School to be rebuilt.... 383
... 9, Commissioner appointed for obtaining the transplantation of Mr. Alex. Henryson from Leuchar.... 384
... 29, Fee to Mr. Thomas Nicolson, advocate, for consultations.... 384
May 27, Mr. John Gregory, minister at Drumoak, is served heir to his father 385
June 12, Those who have put up their names or arms on any of the windows of the kirk must keep them in repair.... 385
... 12, The council agree to build an entry to the college.... 386
... 25, A reader for the parish kirk is chosen.... 386
July 2, Dr. William Johnston admitted burgess.... 387
... 15, Several foreigners admitted to be burgesses.... 387
... 30, A day for riding the town's marches and for a wapinschaw appointed.... 388
Aug. 29, Several burgesses admitted.... 388
Oct. 1, Application to be made to the Bishop for his assistance in getting a successor to Mr. William Forbes.... 389
... 20, Rejoicings to be held on account of the safe return of Prince Charles from Spain.... 389
Nov. 19, Edward Raban to be paid for certain printing done by him.... 390
1624—Feb. 18, Regulations for preventing superfluous banquetings at baptisms.... 390
April 22, Many burgesses admitted.... 391
July 21, Regulations for removal of nuisances in certain streets.... 392
Oct. 20, Mr. David Wedderburn is discharged from teaching the humanity class in the college because it interfered with his other duties.... 392
Dec. 1, The books of the late Mr. Thomas Reid to be transported to the college.... 393

PAGE

1624—Dec. 8, Contribution granted to build a bridge over Bogie, and make a road from Dovern to Spey..... 394

1625—Feb. 16, A bell mortified for the Grammar School..... 395

[Extract in Preface.]

1601—Oct. 22 Laurence Fletcher, Comedian, and others admitted burgesses..... xxii

EXTRACTS

FROM

THE COUNCIL REGISTERS

OF

THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN.

EXTRACTS

FROM

THE COUNCIL REGISTERS

OF

THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN.

2d June, 1570.

2d June, 1570.

The said day, the consell wnder wretin, passit to the peir heid and key heid of this burght, quhair the maissonis ar repairand and biggand the samen, and interruptione maid to thame be Patrick Menzeis haifand ane wast land adiacent contigue thairto, and allegit be hyme that the maissonis biggis upoune his ground thairof, and considerit the forsaid ground be apperance, and ald wse and consuetuid inviolablie obseruit, fand and decernit, decreitit, and pronuncit, that the saidis maissonis hes done na wrang in the bigging of the said peir and schoir as it is bigunn, becaus the samen is biggit upoune the auld ground, and brander of aik sett and infixit obefoir of old, and that the haill schoir biggit and to be biggit within the fluid mark, pertenis to the communitye of this burght, and to na particular personne. Quhilk ordinans the consell ordanis to be insert in thair court buikis, to stand as ane decreit perpetualie in all tym cuming, and the said Patrik protestit for remeid of law.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun exhibeit and presentit to the consell be Johnne Cowpar, for payment of his byrunne fee awand to

2d June, 1570. him for playing on the trum, extending yeirlie to the soume of sax merkis, allegeit awand to him be the space of twa yeir bygane; the consell ordanis him to be payit of the byrunnis, and to haiff yeirlie in tyme cuming, induring the consallis will, alanerlie bot four merkis.

31*st May*, 1571.

The said day, in presens of Mr. George Myddiltoun, and Dauid Mar, tua of the bailles of the burght of Abirdeine, comperit ane nobill and potent Loird [John] Erle of Atholl, and of his awin propir confessioune renunceand his awin jurisdictioun, and submittand him to the iurisdictioun of the prouest and balleis of Abirdeine, in this cace, become actit cautioune and souertie for Androw Mar, burges of Abirdeine, to warrand releif and keip skaithles Alexander Forbes, Johnne Tullidaff, eldar, and Androw Scheres, burgessis of Abirdeine, quhilkis obefoir war actit sourteis and cautioneris coniunctlie and seuerallie for the said Androw Mar to Robert Mengzes and Johnne Kyng, for payment of quhatsumeuer sowmes of money that happinis to be obtenit be ordour of law befoir the prouest and bailleis of Abirdeine be the said Robert and umquhile Johnne, thair airis and assignais, aganis the said Androw his airis and assignais, anent the tua actionis presentlie dependand befor Mr. George Myddiltoune, as balzie and iuge compitent admittit to cognosce in the saidis causis, sua that the said Erle, his airis and assignais, sall releif his saidis cautioneris of the sowmis forsaidis that sal happin to be obtenit aganis the said Androw in baitht the saidis actionis. And the said Androw obleist him, his airis, executouris, and assignais, landis and guidis, present and to cum, to warrand, relief, and keip skaithtles the said nobill loird of the premisses; Befoir thir witnessis, ane reverend father in God, William, bischop of Abirdein; my Lord Fleming; Maisteris Johnne Abircromy; Alexander Skeyne; sic subscribitur, Mr. George Myddiltoune, bailze.

28*th February*, 1571.

The said day, anent the actioun movit and persewit be Gilbert Dalgarnocht in Egy, aganis Issobell Robertsoun, spous of Mr. Jon Robertsoun, burges of Abirdeine, and the said Jon for his interess, be vertew of ane libellit petitioun, exhibeit and producit be the said Gilbert aganis thame, proportand and makand mentioun that in the moneth of Junii in the yeir

of God jai v^c saxtie and nyn yeiris, the said Gilbert gef and delyuerit to the said Issobell in keiping, within hir said spous and hir's duelling hous in the Gaistraw of Abirdeine, ane lokkit bonat caiss couerit witht selch skinnis, quhairin was contenit, the tym of delyuerans thair of, the soume of twa hundreth markis wsuall money of Scotland, pertening to the said Gilbert as his awin propir guid to haue bein keipit and delyuerit againe to him be the said Issobell quhen he requirit the samen; and thairefter, in the monetht of September, the yeir of God 1570 yeiris, the said Gilbert past and requirit the said Issobell to delyuer to him his said bonat caiss and money forsaid contenit thairin. And than the said Issobell presentit to him the said bonat caiss, it being cuttit on baytht the sydis and his haill money forsaid takin furtht of the samen, except fyftein poundis allanerlie, quhilk he resaivit fra hir in pairt of payment of the forsaid soum of twa hundretht merkis, and inlaikit the rest thairof, viz. aucht scoir sevintein merkis sax s. viii d. ondelyuerit again to him be the said Issobell, quhilk scho and hir said spous wrangouslie and aganis the law postponis, refuissis, and deferris to restoir and delyuer to him, lyk as in the said petitioun at mair leyntht is contenit: the rychtis, ressonis, and defensiss of baytht the saidis pairteis being considerit and wnderstand be the prouest and bailleis, and thai being reyplie and at lentht avysit witht the haill process led and deducit in the said mater, fand and delyuerit, pronuncit and decreitit, That the said Gilbert hes provyn sufficientlie, that in the monetht of Junii in the yeir of God aboun wretin, he delyuerit his said bonat to the said Issobell in keiping conteining the foirsaid sowme of tua hundreth merkis money forsaid, to haif beine restorit and delyuerit again to him quhen he requirit the same; and that thairefter, in the monetht of September, in the yeir of God 1570 yeiris forsaid, at the delyuering to him be the said Issobell of the said bonat cace, the samen was slittit and cuttit on baytht the sydis, as is aboun wretin; and that the said Gilbert inlaikit and wantit of the foirsaid principall sowme of tua hundretht merkis, the sowme of sevin scoir sevintein merkis ten s. in the said Issobellis defalt, of the quhilk the said Gilbert gat na restitutioun nor profeit thairof, quharfoir the balleis decernit and ordanit the said Isobell, and Mr. Jon hir spouss, for his interess, to restoir and delyuer again to the said Gilbert the forsaid sowme off sevin scoir and sevintein markis ten s. within terme of law.

28th Feb., 1571.

28th March, 1572.

28th March, 1572.

The said day, the consall being conuenit for the maist pairt in the consall hous, within the Tolbuitht of Abirdeine, thocht expedient to put the townis euidentis in ferme securetye and keiping in Dunnottar for a seassonne, quhill thai think expedient, for eschewing of apperand danger in this troublouss tyme, provyding that attentik inuentour be takin of the numer of peices delyuerit.

3rd April, 1572.

The said day, Guttroun Clementsounn and Matheus Petirsounn, induellaris in Birroun, in Norrouay, grantit thame to haif bocht and resauit fra George Strathauthin and Dauid Indeocht, ane schipis boit, and sax staine and tua pound of takill, for the quhilk thai obleiss thame to pay for the said boit fyfteine hundretht gress steingis guid and sufficient, and gif thai delyuer to the saidis George and Dauid at thair againe cuming to Abirdeine the said boat als guid as sche was the tyme of thair intrometting thairwitht, than and in that case the said George and Dauid sall gyf in againe to the saidis Guttrome and Matheus the pryce of aucht hundretht steingis that thai sall happin to gif in the towne for the tyme; and the saidis Guttroun and Matheus sall pay for euery staine of the saidis sax stainis and tua pound tackill xxiii. s. at thair againe cuming.

5th April, 1572.

The said day, comperit in presens of Gilbert Mengzes, and Mr. George Myddiltoun, twa of the bailleis of the brught of Abirdeine, Patrick Ballendeyne of Stenhouss, in Orknay, and maid faitht in jugement that he was nother airt nor pairt of consell nor knoulege of the slauchter of umquhile Thomas Markartnay, burges of Edinburght, committit be James Ballendeyne, youngar, Johnne Sandesounn, callit Laird Sandersounn, Williame Ramsay, son to the Laird of Poltoun, Archebald Browne, and thair complices, in the monntht of . . . the yeir of God jai v^c lxi. yeir, as is allegit, and obleist him to assist and concur witht the kyn and freindis of the said umquhile Thomas in persuit of the committaris of the said slauchter, in the law and by the law, by all lesum meines at his wther powar; and gif ony of his kyn or freindis wald allege that he was airt or pairt thairoff, the said Patrick actit himself to compeir befoir the

justice and his deputies, at quhat dai or place thai sall appoynt, and wnderly the law thairfor, conforme to the act of parliament, and painis conteinit thairin; wpoun the quhilk Williame Markartnay, broder to the said wmquhile Thomas, askit act of court. 5th April, 1572.

14*th April*, 1572.

The said day, Archebald Rait, burges of Abirdene, comperit in jugement, and exponit that thir xxiiii. yeiris last bypast he frequentit nor usit nocht na kynd of marcheondryce within the burght of Abirdeine: neuertheless, he, as ane fre burges of the samyn, hes beine compellit to pay diuerss and sindrey taxationis, and laitlie sen Candlimess, xxiiii. s. and sensyn three poundis; albeit, as he allegeit the same was aboune his substance and geir, quharfoir of his awin free motiue will on coactit or compellit frelie renuncit and ouergef in jugement his fredome that he hed as burges of the said burght, witht all fredome and preuelege that he micht joyss thairby, and protestit thairfor in tyme cuming that he be nocht compellit to waik, waird, gyf personall presens in heid courtis of the samyn, scott or lott, pay ony taxationis or contrabutionis, as free burges of the said burght, bot he to be free in tyme cuming, and desyrit him to be deleitit and drawin furtht of the suit rollis and buikis of the said burght, and thairupoun twk act of court and instrument.

4*th October*, 1572.

The said day, the haile towne being warnit to this day, be the hand bell passand throw all the streittis of the toun, and the four officiaris of the same, to the effect wnder wretin, vpoun the quhilk thai maid faytht, and being convenit and representit for the maist pairt, grantit to the support of my Lord Erle of Huntlie, and specialie to remove the suldeouris and men of weir out of this burght, and boundis thairof, the sowme of sax hundretht markis, and to that effect electit, nominat, and chesit Mr. Patre Ruderfurd, Martein Howesoune, Robert Menzes, Alex$^{r.}$ Howesoune, and Mr. James Burnet, taxtaris to stent and sett the nychtbouris of this guid toun to the said sowme, according to thair faculties, rentis, and pissance, efter thair knawlege and wnderstanding.

13*th October*, 1572.

The said day, in presens of Thomas Mengzes of Petfoddellis, provest

13th October, 1572.

of Abirdeine, and Gilbert Mengzes of Cowlie, ane of the baillies of the samyn burght, comperit Patrick Mengzes, burges of the samyn, and grantit him resauit be the handis of ane honorable man James Gordoune of Haddocht, the sowme of fyve hundretht markis, usuall money of Scotland, quhilk the said Patrick become souertie and cautioner for the said James in the tyme of wmquhill James Erll of Murray, first Regent to oure Souerane Loird the Kingis grace, to haif beine payit to the thesaurar, at ane certaine day bygaine; and the said Patrik, as he allegeit, hes payit the same to the thesaurar, coactit thairto as cawtioner and souertie for the said James. Of the quhilk sowme the said Patric grantit him weill content, and payit be the handis of the said James, and dischargeit him thairof, and obleist him, his airis, executouris, and assignais, to warrand relieff, and keip the said James, his airis, executouris, and assignais, skaythtles of the forsaid soume of fyve hundredtht markis money foirsaid, at the handis of our said souerane loird his grace, thesauraris, collectouris, comtrollaris, and all wtheris quhome it efferis in tyme cuming.

12*th January*, 1572.

The said day, it was dewysit, statut, and ordanit, be the prowest, bailleis, and consell of this guid towne, and ratefeit and apprevit be the haill communitie convenit in thair heid court, for the maist pairt representand the haill bodey of the towne, that the haill annuell rentis of the chepplanreis fundit withtin thair proche kirk of Abirdeine, quhilkis ar at the donatioune and dispositioune of this guid towne as patronis to the samen, witht all croftis, howsis, bigginis, few mailes, and wther deweteis belangand thairto, sall remain perpetualie efter the deceis of the cheplanis present possessouris of the same, as eweir thai sall happin to inlaik, *respective and successiue*, in the townis handis on disponit to sik chepplanis in tyme cuming; but to be annexat, giffin, and grantit, uptoikin and resauit yeirlie and perpetualie in all tymes cuming to the uphalding, bigging, beiting, and repairing of thair said parroche kirk. And be the tennour heirof giffis, grantis the same, according to the fundationis and rentales thairof, to the wphalding of the said kirk and kirkwark, and ane just rentall and inuitour of the saidis annual rentis to be maid in dew forme, and registrat in the townis buikis to the effect foirsaid; and ratefeis, apprevis the act and statut maid thairupoun obefoir, sua that all the

townis, chepplanreis, that hes vaikit sen the dait of the said statut, sal be disponit to the wse and effect forsaid; and attour deuysit and ordanit that the collectioun of the almes to the support of the puir folkis, maid thair dyuerss yeris laitlie bygane, be chengeit, and the same collectioun to be maid and gatherit to the uphald of the said parroch kirk, and delyuerit euery Sounday as it is collectit, to the maister of the kirk wark, and that ewiry honest man, baitht prowest and bailleis witht-out exceptioun, ilkane thair Sounday about, in ordour as thai stand, collect the said support; and quha that dissobeyis to pay to the said maister of wark als mekill money as was collectit the Sounday immediatlie obefoir onfergiffin, conforme to the auld wse and statutis maid obefoir thiranent; and mairour for the beiting and repairing of the said parroche kirk, it is devysit and ordanit that the taxatioun deuysit and stentit obefor of the haill communitie, be oblistit to the effect foirsaid, in maner as was deuysit: and first, that the half thairof of the personis restand awand the samen on payit be uptakin, witht all diligenss, and the reddiest of the geir and guidis of thame that ar restand on payit the samyn, and refuissis and dissobeyis, to be poyndit and comprysit, thair-foir, and efter that the said first half be compleittit, collectit, and applyit to the effect foirsaid, and compt and rakining be maid thairof: the second half to be uptain as said is; to the quhilk last ordinance Alex^r Knowis, eldar, Gilbert Collisoun, Alex^r Howesoun, Johnne Irre-wing, Alex^r Lyoun, Alex^r Knowis, youngar, Jon Knowis, and Gilbert Knowis disassentit presentlie, and desyrit avysment to gif ansuer thairto. 12th January 1572.

12*th January*, 1572.

Item, it is statut and ordanit anent the support of the puir folkis, that tua honest men of ilk quarter of the towne, pass thair tyme about ouklie, throught the haill toune, and collek sik almes of ewery personne as God will move thair hartis to gif at thair plesour; and the samen to be delyuerit to the generall collectour thairof, quhilks generall collectour sal be chosin euerie ratht, and the same to be disponit and distributit ilk monetht be the awyss of the minister and haill consall, to honest dekayit personis, and puir folkis bred and borne within the toune, and to na wtheris.

19th Feb., 1573.

19*th February*, 1573.

The said day, the bailleis decernit and decreitit that Marioun Allaster, and Alex. Quheitcross, hir spous, hes provyne sufficientlie that the said Marioune is narrest and lauchtfull air to umquhill David Allaster, hir father, burges of Abirdeine; and that Agnes Lowsoun, the relict of umquhill the said David at the tyme of his deceiss, intromittit with the airschip, geir, and guidis efter following: that is to say, witht ane knapisca, pryce thairof viii. s.; ane suord, pryce xx. s.; a quhinger, pryce iiii. s.; a pair of blak hoiss, pryce xiii. s. iiii. d.; a blak bonet, pryce viii. s.; a pair of weyis witht baikis, pryce xl. d.; a scryne, pryce vi. s. viii. d.; a pair of schellis to wy madder, pryce vi. s. viii. d.; a pair of small schellis for peppir, pryce iii. s.; a kyst, pryce vi. s. viii d.; a gardnet of brass, pryce iii. s.; a chandlair, pryce fyve s.; a pewtar plait, pryce v. s.; a dische, pryce ii. s.; a spitt, pryce iii. s.; a ladill, pryce xii. d.; a gowne of pryce iii. lb.; a cloik of russat, pryce xx. s.; a dowlet of dubill wirsatt, pryce xx. s.; a troiss pund of brass, pryce v. s.; a furnest bed, pryce xl. s.; a buird, pryce xvi. s.; a poit of brass, pryce vi. s. viii. d.; a tangis, pryce xviii. d.; a cruik, pryce v. s.; a spinning quheill, pryce v. s.; a pair of keardis, pryce xxx. d.; a sark, v. s., extending in the haill to the soume of [ ].

10*th March*, 1573.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consale present for the tyme, devysit and ordanit Patrik Mengzes to pas to Edinburght, as commissioner for thame, and their to present ane supplicatioune and complent to my Lord Regentis grace, upoune the Laird of Phillortht, anent the chargeing and laidning of ane Fleming schip withtin the poirt and hevyne of Faithtlie, with hydis, skinnis, and wther marchundreiss, in hurt and preiudice of the priuilege of this burght, commoditie and jurisdictioune of the samen; and siclyk, be the usurpatioune of the preuilegeis of the burght, bethe poirtis and hevynnis of the Newburght, Petirheid, and wtheris, and to labour quhat remeid ma be found thairfoir, and quhat corroboratioun may be haid of the saidis preuileges, conforme to the articlis and informatioune giffin to the said Patrick thairanent; and ordanit Mr. Patrik Ruderfurd, thesaurar, to delyuer the said Patrik threttie pundis to mak his expensiss; and Mr. George Johnstoune and Robert Menzes, eldar,

deynis of gild, oblest thame that gyf the said Mr. Patrik be superspendit, his comptis being hard, to refound to him the foirsaid sowme; and in that cace the consale suspendit all dispositionis and assignationis of quhatsumeuir sowmes of money to be debursit be the saidis deynis of gild eftir this present day, quhill thai be releiffit and satisfeit againe of the sowme forsaid. 10th March, 1573.

31*st Auyust*, 1574.

The said day, the prouest, bailyeis, consell, and communite of this burght, being warnit to this day be the hand bell in generall passand throw the haill rewis of the toune, and be the officiaris in speciall, to compeir within thair paroche kirk in Sanct Petiris ile to the effect wnder wretten; and compeiring personalie for the maist pairt representand the haill body of the toune, it was exponit unto thame be Gilbert Mengzes of Cowlie, balyie, desyrit be the remanent balyies to oppin the effect of thair conventioune, quhow that my Lord Regentis Grace, be sinister and wrang informatioune of sum invyous personis, baris indignatioune at this burght and inhabitantis thairof, allegeand that thai haf nocht done thair dewetie and thankfull seruice to our Souerane Lord the Kingis Grace, induring the tyme of the lait truble and frequent tumult that was in this realme amongis the nobilite and lieges thairof, and theirfor was scharplie to put at this burght and haill communite thairof, in this present iustice air presentlie haldin withtin the samen, and to imput ane gryt stent, contributioune, and taxatioune upon this burght and haill communite thairof, for guid and thankfull service to be done in tyme cuming to our said Souerane Lord, under gryt panis, as my Lord Regentis grace and lordis of privie consell, present in this toune, plesit to devyse; and lykwayis, desyring strait obligationis and bandis of this burght and haill communite thairof, for guid and thankfull seruice to be done in tyme cuming to our Sourane Lord, under gryt panis, as my Lord Regentis Grace and Lords of privie consell, present in this toune, plesit to devyse, and the securite thairof, uderwayis to perseu thame in the law in this present air, be rigour of iustice, with all extremitie. The quhilk my Lord Regentis Grace, and his consell foirsaid, had ordanit the balyeis to declair this his mynd planlie to the haill communitie foirsaid, and desyrit them generallie, and als euerie man particularlie, quhat thai wald do concerning the premissis, that the balyeis mycht report the samen agane be thair ansuir in wreitt, to my

31st August, 1574. said Lord Regent and his consell, quhilkis all in ane voce for the maist pairt grantit and consentit to mak faythtful, trew, and obedient seruice to our said Souerane Lord and his said Regent at thair uter possibilite and powar, perpetually in all tyme cuming, as it becumis faythtfull and trew subjectis to do unto thair natiue prince, and to mak sic band and securite thairfor as my Lord Regentis Grace and his consell, be the adwyse of the consell of this burght, will dewyse; and alse, to gif ane contributioune of monie according to thair substance and facultie, as thai may ressonable bair and performe, thai gettand ane sufficient discharge of all crymes and offences bygane, and na nychtbour of this burght to be accusit nor wnderly the law for ony cryme except the cryme of tressoune. And this the haill communitie ordanit to giff for thair ansuir in ureitt to my said Lord Regent and his consell forsaid, upoune the quhilkis the said Gilbert Mengzes and remanent bailyeis tuik act and instrument, in presens of the haill toune.

2nd September, 1574.

The said day, the haill toune being warnit to this day, be the handbell in generall passand throw the haill rewis of the samen, and be the officiaris in speciall, to compeir withtin thair proche kirk in Sanct Peteris ile, and compeiring personallie for the maist pairt representand the haill body of the toune, it was exponit unto thame be Gilbert Mengzeis of Cowlie, balzie, at the desyre of the remanent balzeis, quhow that my Lord Regent and his grace previe consell, hes causit mak ane strait band and obligatioune of the haill communitie of this burght, for thankful, dew, and obedient seruice to our Souerane Lord the Kingis Grace, and his said Regent, in tyme cuming, contenying diuerss scharp conditionis, restrictionis, and panis, to be seilit witht the commoune seill of this burght, togither with the subscriptioune of the commoune clerk thairof, in name of the haill communite, quhilk band and tenour thairof afterfollowis; and als hes imput ane exactioune and taxatioune upoune this burght, of the sowme of four thousand markis, to be payit as after followis,—That is to say, three thousand markis betuixt the dait heirof, and xx. dai of October nixt to cum; and ane thousand markis to be applyit upoune the hospitale, upon the lipper houss, upone the kirk, and wther publict warkis, withtin certane space and yeris, as my Lord Regent and his graces previe consell foirsaid sall think expedient, and gif in

wreitt, and na utherwayis be na maynis nor labouris will his grace be content. And the haill communitie, nochtwithstanding thai thocht the samen weray hourtfull to thame, and weray far aboune thair facultie and substance, grantit and consentit thairto, thai gettand ane sufficient discharge according to thair desyre, and articulis to be giffin in wreitt; and to that effect chesit Gilbert Mengzeis, elder; Alex^r Knowis, elder; Alex^r Chalmer, elder; Robert Mengzes, elder; Gilbert Collesonne; Johnne Lowsonne; Alex^r Cullen; Androw Huntar; Dauid Indeaucht; Alex^r Howesoune; and Dauid Andersoune, to stent the forsaid sowme of thrie thousand markis, upon the prouest, bailzeis, consell, and communitie foirsaid, and for payment thairof at the day aboune wretin: at the feruent desyre and request of the consell of this burght foirsaid, Maister Patrik Ruderfurd; Gilbert Menzeis, elder; Alex^r Chalmer, elder; Johnne Lowsonne; Patrik Mengzeis; and Alex^r Knowis, elder, ar becumin cautionaris and souerties, coniunctlie and seuerallie; and the saidis prouest, bailyeis, consell, and communitie all in ane voce, obleist thame selfis to releif the saidis souerteis of the foirsaid sowme, at the day aboune wretin, under the pane of hornyng. 2nd Sept. 1574.

[Copy of the foresaid bond.]

Be it kend till all men be thir present letteris ws the prouest, baillies, consell, and communitie of the burght of Abirdeine, to be boundin and oblest, and be the feytht and trewtht in our bodyis, faythtfullie bindis and oblissis us to the rycht excellent, rycht heych and mychtie Prince, James the Saxt, be the grace of God King of Scottis, our Sourane Lord, and his rycht traist cowsing, James erll of Mortoun, lord of Dalkeytht, regent to his hieness, his realme, and lieges: That for samekill as for removing of the last publict trublis and ciuil veare, quharwitht this realme was sa lang grevit and inquetit to the displessour of Almychtie God, the dangeare of his trew religioun, hurt, and preiudice of our said Souerane Lord, and haill commoun weill of this realme, the said Lord Regent hes brocht to pas and concludit a guid and godlie pacificatioune, thairby (for publict quietness causs), remitting nocht onlie greyt and haynous crymes and offensis, to the personis propirlie comprehendit in the said pacificatione; bot to diuerss utheris, quhilkis nochtwithstanding the samen mycht justlie haif beine punissit witht rigour and extremitie, for quhilk fauour and clemency, ressauit be ws amangis wtheris, we sall in all tyme cuming con-

2nd Sept., 1574.

tineu faythtful and obedient subiactis to our said Souerane Lord, his authoritie and regent foirsaid, and sall neuir knaw of ony treasoune, rebellioun, skaytht or damnage to be conspyrit, attemptit, or interprysit aganis the same, within or outout this realme, quhilk we sall nocht rewell to his hienes, and his said regent, with all possibill diligence, and tak, apprehend, and present all suspect personis and wrettingis cuming in the realme, or intending to depairt thairfra be our port in tyme cuming; and alls, that we sall na ways resett, supple, assist, fortifie, schaw fauour, or manteine ony of our Souerane Lordis present declarit tratouris and notorious rebellis, or utheris strangearis or borne subiactis of this realme, that heireftir sall happin to conspyre, usurp, and rebell aganis his hienes his said Regent and authoritie, bot sall resist and repress thame to our utter powar; and giff we be nocht abaill to withtstand thair force and inuasione, we sall remove our selffis, our famyleis and guidis, furtht of the said burght to the peirteis of the realme than abyding in our Souerane Lordis obedience, and concur witht his faythfull lieges to the defence and preseruatioun of his estate and authoritie, quhairthrow the saidis declairit tratouris, ribellis, conspyratouris, and trublaris of the commoun weill, strangearis [and] utheris, sall nocht be aydit, suppliit, furnesit, harbriit, or intertenit be ws, nor our moyen, or voluntary be our guidis, directly or indirectly; and in lyk maner, that we sall on na wyis elect or admit ony personn or personis to the offices of prouestrie, baillierie, thesaurarie, denerie of gild, common clerkschip, or to be of the consell of the said burght at the feist of michelmes nixt to cum, or thairefter in tyme cuming, bot sic personis as ar knawin zealous professouris of the trew and cristiane religione now publictly precheit, and be law establissit within this realme; and that hes bene, and is knawin to be, ernist and effectionat weillwillaris to the advancement and furthsetting of his hienes authoritie and seruice. And we sall ansuir to God and his hienes upoune our allegeance and dewetie, and under the pane of tuenty thousand poundis to be payit be us to his maiesties use and tinsall of the fredome of the said burgh, for us and our successouris perpetually: attour we ar content, and consentis that this our band and obligatioune be actit and registrat in the buikis of our Souerane Lordis preve consell and sessione, or ayther of thame, to have the strength of ane act and decreit of the lordis thairof; and that lettres and executorialls be derect thairwpone in forme as efferis, in vitnes of the quhilk thing to this our present band, promeiss, and obligatione, sub-

scryivit by our common clerk at our command, the common seill of our said burgh is to hungin at the same burgh, the last day of August, the yeir of God jai v c thrie score and fourteine yeiris. 2nd Sept., 1574.

[Another bond by the Burgh.]

Be it kend till all men be thir our present letteris, us, the prouest, baillies, consell, and communitie of the burgh of Abirdeine, That forsamekill as our Souerane Lord, witht awise and consent of his richt traist cousing, James Erll of Mortoun, Lord of Dalkeyth, Regent to his hienes, his realme, and liegis, considering our procedings in the resetting, assisting, contributioun, and stent making witht George, Erll of Huntly, Adame Gordoun of Auchindounn, his brother, thair complices, tennentis, seruandis, dependantis, and partakaris, dureing the tyme of the lait rebellioun and conspyracy aganis his hienes and his authoritie, being of mynd for publict quietnes caus to reduice all his hienes subiactis to his full obedience: Respecting our humble offeris, faythfully to contineu in oure dewtifull obedience, loyaltie, and trew seruice to his hienes and his authoritie in tyme cuming, as our band and obligatioune to that effect delyuerit to my Lord Regentis grace beris; and for certane compositioun hes dischargeit ws for ewir all actioun and cryme that ma ony wayis be imput to ws for the causis and crymes aboue-wrettin, as in the discharge thairupoun at mair lenth is expressit: of quhilk compositioun my Lord Regentis grace, of his mere fauor and clemency, and in respect of our trew seruice to be maid in tyme cuming, hes frelie dischargit to ws the sowme of ane thowsand markis, and alls hes grantit ane wther thowsand markis of oure said compositioune to the bigging and reparatioun of ane hospitall withtin oure said burght, for the harbring and resett of the pure and impotent personis of the same, thairfor to be bundin and oblist, and be the tenour heirof faythfullie bindis and oblissis ws and our successouris to bestow and imploy the said sowme of ane thowsand markis money forsaid, upoune the bigging and reparatioune of the said hospitall within oure said burght, within the space of fawe yeiris efter the dait, quhilk we sall demonstrat and mak cleirly knawin be trew compt to oure Souerane Lord and his Regent at the end of the saidis fywe yeiris, but farther delay fraude and gyle. And heirto we bind and oblise ws, as said is, in the stratest forme and sicker style of obligatioun that can be dewysit or maid, na remeid nor

2nd Sept., 1574.

exceptioun of law to be proponit or allegit, in the contrar, renuncand the same for ws and oure successouris for ewir: And ar content and consentis that this our obligatioun be actit and registrat in the buikis of preuie consell, to haue the strenth of ane act and decreit of the Lordis thairof, and that letteris and executoriallis be direct thairupoune in forme as effeirs: In witnes of the quhilk thing, we haue causit oure commoun clerk be our commoun vote and consent subscriue this oure band and obligatione, at the said burgh of Abirdeine, the third day of September, the yeir of God jai v^e^ thre scoir fourtein yeiris, and alsua our commoun seill is assignit to the same.

[The King's discharge to the Burgh.]

Rex. Ws and our rycht traist cousing, James Erll of Mortoun, Lord of Dalkeyth, Regent to ws, our realme, and liegis, hawand consideratioun of the prouest, bailleis, counsell, and communitie, and burgensiss, craftismen, induallis of our burgh of Abirdeine, anent the resetting, assysting, contributioun, and stent-making, with George Erll of Huntlie, Adame Gordoun of Auchindoun, his brother, thair complices, tennentis, seruandis, dependentis, and partakaris during the tyme of thair lait rebellioun and conspyracie aganis us, and our authoritie, being of mynd for publict quietnes caus to reduice all our subiactis to our full obedience. Respecting the humble and ernist offeris of the saidis prouest, bailleis, counsell, and communitie, and wtheris aboue wrettin, faythfullie to continew in thair dewtifull obedience, loyaltie, and trew seruice to ws and our authoritie in [tyme] cuming, as thair band and obligatioun to that effect delyuerit to ws and our said Regent in our name beris: Thairfor, with auise of our said cousing and Regent, dischargis for ewir all actioune and cryme that may ony wayis be imput to the saidis prouest, counsell, communitie, burgessis, craftismen, induallis of our said burgh of Abirdeine, and haill fredome of the same, for the causis and crymes aboue wretin, and for all actioun and cryme that may follow thairupone, or be imput to thame or ony of thame thairthrow, and alls for all wtheris actionis, transgressionis, crymes, and offensiss committit or done be thame, or ony of thame in ony tyme bygane, befoir the dait of thir presentis; (the being at the conflictis of Tilleangus and Craibstoune aganis ws and our authoritie, and uthairis crymes of tresonis, murthour, slauchter, mutilatioun, fyre-raising, reuissing of vemen,

incest, witchcraft, adulterie, forging, prenting, hame bringing, and out-putting of fals and adulterat money, sorning, deforcing of our officearis, oicker, hearing and saying of mes, thift and resett of thift, piracie, and resett thairof, allanerlie except) discharging heirfor all our officearis, present and to cum, of all proceedingis aganis the saidis prouest, bailleis, consell, and communitie, burgessis, craftismen, indualleris of our said burgh, and fredome thairof, aboue wrettin: continwing alwyss in thair dewtifull obedience and trew seruice to ws and our said authoritie in tyme cuming, according to thair said band and obligatioune; and gyf thai mak defectioun thairfra, our said discharge sall nocht be extendit to the offendouris; bot thai and euerie ane of thame in haill or in pairt that sall contrauene the same band and obligatioun, to be persewit and pwnesit for the caussis and crymes aboue specefeit, as gyff our said discharge had newir bene gevin nor grantit thairfor; and thir presentis we ordane to be registrat in the buikis of secreit counsall in forme of act, ad futuram rei memoriam: Gevin under our signet and subscryuit be our said cousing and Regent, at Abirdeine the third day of September, and of our regne, the aucht yeir, jai v^c^ sewintie-four yeiris, sic subscribitur, James, Regent. 2nd Sept., 1574.

Rex. Ws and our rycht traist cousing, James, Erll, of Mortoun, Lord Dalkeytht, Regent to ws, our realme, and liegis, wnderstanding that the prouest, baillies, consell, and communitie of our burgh of Abirdeine, ar oftymes attechit and summondit to pas upoun inquiestis and assyssis to our burgh of Edinburgh, and wtheris outwitht thair boundis and jurisdictioun, in crymes committit far distant fra thame, quhairof thai ar altogidder ignorant; thairfor, and for diuerss ressonabill caussis and consideratiounis mowing ws, and our said rycht traist cousing and Regent, be the tennour heirof, grantis and gewis our speciall licence to the prouest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of our said burght of Abirdeinne, to remane and byde at hame fra all passing upone inquiestis or assyissis in quhat sumewir crymes or actionis (except in sik crymes as ar committit withtin the said burght, fredome thairof, and tua mylis about the same), exemand and dischargand thame and ilk ane of thame thairfra for all the dayis of thair lyftimes: and will and grantis that thai in doing thairof sall incur na skaytht cryme, nor danger, nor be callit or accusit thairfor, crimynalie nor ciuilie, be ony maner of way in tyme cuming, nochtwithstanding ony our actis, statutis, proclamationis,

2nd Sept., 1574.

or chargis speciall or generall, maid or to be maid in the contrar; anent the quhilkis and panis contenit thairintill, we dispens witht the saidis prouest, bailleis, counsell, and communitie forsaidis, be thir presentis, discharging heirfor all and sindrie our jugeis and ministeris of our lawis, iustice clerkis, aduocatt, thesaurar, and all and syndry utheris our jugis quhatsumewir, thair officearis and deputtis, of all calling, accusing, persewing, poynding, trowbling, or ony wyiss intrometting with the saidis prouest, bailleis, counsell, and communitie foirsaidis, for thair said remayning and byding at hame fra all and sindrie inquieistis or assyssis to be committit as said is, and of thair offices in that pert for all the dayis of thair lyftymes, be thir our lettres: Gevin under our signet and subsryuit be our said richt traist cousing and Regent, at our burgh of Abirdeine, the third day of September, and of our regne the aucht yeir ane thawsand fiue hundreth seuintie-four yeiris, sic subscribitur, James, Regent.

Rex. Ws be the tennour heirof witht consent of our richt traist cousing, James, Erll of Mortoun, Lord of Dalkeyth, Regent to ws, our realme and liegis, gevis and grantis licence to our louittis Thomas Mengzes of Petfoddellis, prouest of our burght of Abirdeine, and to the bailleis and counsell of our said burght, being chargeit to compeir personalie befoir our said Regent and lordis of prewie counsell, the first day of Junii nixt to cum, to ansuir to sic thingis as salbe laid to thair charge, to remane and abyde at hame nothoutstanding the said charge gevin and execut aganis withtout harme, skaythe, or danger of hornyng, or uthairwyiss to be incurrit and susteinit be thame notwithstanding thair non-comperance at the said day, quhairanent we dispens, dischargeing thame simpliciter thairof be thir our lettres, gevin under our signet, and subscryuit be our said cousing and Regent at Halyrudehouss, the xviii. day of Maii, and of our regne the saxt yeir, jai v^{c} sevintie four yeiris, sic subscribitur, James, Regent.

At Abirdeine, the tuelff day of Jullii, the yeir of God jai v^{c} thre scoir nyne yeiris, my Lord Regentis Grace commandit and ordanit the lettre and discharge following subscryuit witht his hand, to be insert and registrat in the buikis of secreit cousell, ad perpetuam rei memoriam, of the quhilk letter the tennour followis: Ws hawand consideratioun of the precedings of the burgessis and inhabitantis of the burgh of Abeirdeine,

anent assisting, contributioun, and stent making in tymes bypast, with George Erll of Huntlie and his complices perttakaris, contrair our Souerane Lordis authoritie, understandand the samyn done be feir and compulsioun, thair guid mynd and wyll beand to the trew seruice of our Sourane, heirfoir, We witht auise of the lordis of secreit counsall, dischargis for euir all actioune and cryme that onywayis may be imput to the burgessis of the said burght and induellaris of the samyn, and all our Soueranis officearis present and to cum, and of all preceding contrair thame tuicheing the premissis, alwayis that thir presentis extend nocht nor comprehend the burgessis and indualleris of the samen burght, that hes acceptit componitur for the samyn crymes, nor yit the personis that ar summond, or to be summond, for fals cunze at ony tyme, and thir presentis to be insert in the buikis of secerit counsall in forme of act witht extensioun necessar, subscryvit witht our hand at Abirdeine, the tuelff day of Julii, the yeir of God jai v^{c} saxtie nane yeiris, sic subscribitur, James, Regent. Extractum de libro actorum, &c., per Alex^{r}· Hay. 2nd Sept., 1574.

Componitur pro remissione cum preposito balliuis consulibus communitate burgensibus et inhabitantibus burgum de Abirdeine et libertatem eiusdem infra vicecomitatum de Abirdeine commoran. pro ipsorum proditoria remanentia ab exercitu S D N regine ordinat ad conueniendum super mora de Gladismuire in mense Augusti anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo quadragesimo octauo pro obsidione ville de Hadingtoun et recuperatione eiusdem de manibus Anglorum in eodem tunc temporis existen. et ab aliis exercitibus et conuentionibus quibuscunque preteritis et pro omnibus actione et crimine que eueniant eorum alicui inde quouismodo imputari poterint necnon pro omnibus aliis actionibus criminibus transgressionibus et offenssis quibuscunque per dictos prepositum balliuos communitatem burgenses et inhabitantes burgum predictum et libertatem eiusdem aut eorum aliquam aliquibus temporibus elapsis ante diem date presentium commissis seu quomodolibet perpetratis proditoria traditione in personam dict. S D N regine suique tutoris et regni gubernatoris omnibuscusque aliis proditionibus Incendio murthura mulierum raptu furto receptione furti spoliatione ecclesiarum defortiatione officiariorum laceratione literarum reginearum aut ordinariorum oppressione facta per lie foirstalling cowping et regrating in publicis nundinis et foris, receptione assistentia et intercommunicatione cum proditoribus declaratis dicte

2nd Sept., 1574. domine regine interfectione nigrorum piscium tempore prohibito ac arte magica duntaxat except. subscript. per duos compositores apud prefatum burgum de Abirdeine octauo die mensis Julii anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo secundo. Compositio iii^c^. xxxiii. lib. vi. s. viii. d.

8th October, 1574.

The said day, anent the supplicatioune gevin in be Walter Cullen, publict reidar to this burght, anent the augmentatioune of his stipend of tuentie poundis quhilk he hes of the toune for seruice, for diuerss causis and considerationis contenit in his said supplicatioune, quhilkis was thocht ressonable be the counsell, and thai thairfor augmentit the said Walteris stipend witht the soume of ten poundis, makand in the haill threttie poundis, to be payit yeirlie to the said Walter at Mertimes and Witsonday, be twa equall portionis, upon his guid seruice induring the consellis will, and ordanis the thesaurar to ansuir the said Walter of the Mertimes terme nixt cumis for the first terme of payment.

The said day, the counsell ordanis Alexander Malysone, fermorar of the tounis tak, callit the Haly Dayis Fische and Sanct Nicolas Mett, and his successouris taxismen of the samen, to cum to be ansurit of the auld dewetie of the said tak: that is to say, of euerie schip and boit of salt, passing fourtie bollis, to haff a small mett for the dewetie thairof, and siclyk ane of the apillis, ingyounis, and uther girnall gudis quhilkis ar mett, mesourit, and deliuerit within this watter; and schippis and boittis hawing les numer and quantite nor fourte bollis to be free of the said exactioune in all tyme cuming.

15th November, 1574.

The said day, the haill toune being warnit be the hand bell to this day, quhairupoune the belman maid faytht, and being convenit for the maist pairt, and representand the haill body of the toune, grantit and consentit to gif ane uiklie support and almus to the puir folkis borne and bred within this toune, and that to be collectit uiklie be ane of the elderis or decanis of the kirk, and deliuerit in keiping to the minister, to be distributit ilk monetht be the ordinance and discretioune of the assembly; and euerie man to gif uiklie according to the roll maid obefoir

witht thair awin consentis, except thai quha plesis to augment thair promeis, and utheris quhilkis maid na promeis nor ar contenit in the said roll, quhilk particularlie sall be uptane to the effect forsaid: and ordanis all beggaris not borne and bred withtin this toune to be remuffit of the samen, and the puir folkis induellaris to wayr the townis takyn on the utter garmountht, quhairby thai may be knawin; and ordanis the bred siluer quhilk was collectit ilk Sonday obefoir to the puir, to be applyit fray in furtht upon the reparatioune of Sanct Nicolas paroche kirk. 15th Nov., 1574.

Eodem die, &c.

The said day, the haill communitie being warnit to this day, conducit Johnne Cowpar to pas euerie day in the morning at four houris, and euerie nicht at viii. houris at ewyne, throw all the rewis of the toune playand upon the almany quhissil, with ane servand with him playand on the tabroune, quhairby the craftismen thair servandis and all utheris laboriouss folkis being warnit and excitat, may pas to thair labouris and fra thair labouris, in dew and conuenient tyme; and ordanis the said Johnne to haff for his stipend and fee yeirlie twa s. of euerie burgess man, and xviii. d. of euerie free craftisman, at four termes in the yeir, Candelmes, the ruid day, Lammes day, and Hallow day, and the first terme to begyn at Candilmes nixt to cum, and that upon his guid seruice induring the consellis will.

5th January, 1575.

The said day, the consell all in ane voce ordanit Maister Johnne Kennedy, thair scrib and commoune clerk, to mak ane buik of perchement to be a register to insert all the euidentis pertenyng to the propirte and preuilegis of this burght, and he to wryt and registrat the samen witht his awin hand, for the quhilk thai ordane Gilbert Collesoune thesaurar to gif him tuentie poundis.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent the assignatioune maid be my Lord Regentis grace and Robert Colvyn thesaurar, clerk to ane honorabill woman Mariorie Dowglas, lady of Rawinscraig, of the sowme of fyve hundretht merkis usuall monee of Scotland, as of ane pairt of the sowme of thre

5th January, 1575.

thowsand merkis grantit to his grace be the communitie of Abirdene, in the last justice air haldin withtin the said burght in the moneth of August last bipast, for payment of the quhilk sowme of thre thowsand merkis to my said Lord Regent and his grace thesaurar at certaine dais, maister Patrik Ruderfurd; Alexander Knowis, eldar; Alex^r Chalmer, elder; Gilbert Mengzes, elder; Patrik Mengzes; and Johnne Lowsonne, ar actit souerteis and cautionaris, the quhilk assignatioune aboune wretin, of the dait the third day of September last bipast, wes exhibit and presentit to the prouest, balleis, and consell of this guid burght, upon the fourtene day of September last bipast; and diuerss requisitionis being maid obefoir for payment of the said sowme, comperit this day Alex^r Keytht of Carnes, factour and procuratour to the said Meriorie, and requirit yit as obefoir at the balzeis and consell of this guid toune personaly present payment of the forsaid sowme, or thair ansuer in wreitt quhat thai will do thairanent, quhilkis being awysit, obleissit thameselffis to pay the forsaid sowme to the said Meriorie betuix this and the first day of Maii nixt to cum but ony forder delay; and the souerteis aboune wretin to stand guid for payment thairof, gyf the said assignatioune and acquittance gevin thairupoune be admittit in thair comptis of payment of the said compositioun; and gif thai be nocht compellit to pay the samen to my Lord Regent and his thesaurar; the quhilk assignatioune and acquittance of the said sowme, the said Alex^r deliuerit to the consell, and gif the said assignatioune beis nocht admittit and allowit be my Lord Regent, the saidis prouest, ballies, and consell to be dischargit and free of payment thairof to the said Meriorie, deliuering to hir againe the forsaid assignatioune and acquittance.

19*th August*, 1575.

The said day, Maister Johnne Kennedy, procuratour and generall collectour to the cheplanis of the parroche kirk of Abirdene, with consent and assent of Schir Johnne Collesoune, Maister Eduard Mengzes, Sir James Barclay, Schir Johnne Blak, and Schir Wilyeam Walkar, his breithar, and cheplanis only on lyf of the queyr and college of the said burgh, compeirit in presens of Thomas Mengzes of Petfoddellis, prouest of the said burght, and in presens of the baillies and haill consell of the samen burght, and thair ryplie aduysit with detfull deliberatioune, resignit and geff our be ane penny as vse is in the handis of Robert Mengzes, ane of the baillies

of the said burght, all and haill thair landis, fischeingis, mailis, few mailis, and annuell rentis quhatsumeuir pertenyng to thame, in patrimonie and propirtie liand within this burght and without the samen, in favouris of the prouest, baillies, consell, and communitie of this burght, thair successouris and assignais quhatsumeuir, reseruand alwais the samen to the saidis cheplanis during thair lyftymes: Provyding alwais, that gif ony of the saidis sax cheplanis, quhilkis now ar lewand, happynnis to deceise, that his pairt and pensioun of the saidis landis, fischeingis, mailis, and annuell rentis, sall returne and remane with the saidis prouest, baillies, consell, and communite, and thair assignais quhatsumeuir. 19th August, 1575.

The said day, the haill toune being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, and compeiring personaly in iugemant, for the maist pairt representand the haill body of the toune, it was exponit and declarit oppinly to thame be Robert Mengzes, ane of the baillies of the said burght, quhow that the cheplanis of the quyar and college of thair parroche kirk of Abirdene, hes resignit in his handis, in presens of the prouest, baillies, and haill consell, this present day, all and haill, thair landis, fischeings, mailis, few mailis, and annuell rentis quhatsumeuir pertenyng to thame, in patrimonie and propirtie, liand within this burght and without the samen, in favouris of the prouest, baillies, consell, and communite of this burght, thair successouris and assignais quhatsumeuir, reservand alwais the samen to the cheplanis during thair lyftymes: provyding alwais, that gif ony of the said sax cheplanis quhilkis now are leifand, happynnis to deceise, that his pairt and pensioune of the saidis landis, fischeingis, mailis, few mailis, and annuell rentis, sall returne and remane with the saidis prouest, baillies, consell, and communite, and thair assignais quhatsumeuir: The quhilk the saidis cheplanis being personaly present, ratefeit and apprevit in jugement, and the said bailye inquired at thame gif thai wald consent and be content to resinge, renunce, and ourgiff the samen agane to the support and uphald of Sanct Thomas hospitale, fundit within this burght besyd thair parroche kirk, quhile forder supplie and support mycht be maid be thame thairvnto, to the quhilkis thai all in ane voice consentit and assentit, and resignit, and renuncit, and ourgeff the samyn, als frelie as is pertenit to thame, in the handis of the said bailye, to the support of the said hospitale, and the puir folkis thairof to be annexat thairto perpetually in all tym cuming, with reseruatioune as is aboune wretin.

7th October, 1575.

7th October, 1575.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consell acceptit and admittit Richert Watsoune, Johnne Malysounne, Thomas Watsounne, and Alexander Johnstounne, to be recauit in thair hospitall withtin Sanct Thomas cheppell, and ilkane of the saidis personis to haf ten poundis yeirlie, to be payit be the toune at twa usuall termes in the yeir, Mertimes and Witsonday, be twa equall portionis ; quhill forder ordour and prouisioune be taken thairanent, and the first terme of payment to be and begyn at Mertimes nixt cumis, and ilk ane of the saidis personis to haf ane uter garmonth all of ane colour and fascheoune yeirly on the townis expensiss, and that nane be receavit bot singell personis without wyffis and barnis in the said hospitall at na tyme cuming.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsell, for the fauor quhilk thai beir to Mr Johnne Crage, minister, and for his guid behaweour had unto thame, and in respect of his guid seruice in his cuir and vocatioun, grantis wnto him the sowme of fortie markis wsuall money of Scotland, to be payit to him at the feistis of Martimes and Witsonday nixt to cum be twa equall half portionis ; and siclyk yeirlie thairefter, fourte markis to be payit at the termes forsaid induring thair will ; and ordanis the dene of gild to ansuir him thairoff yeirlie and termlie at the termes forsaid, besyd and attour his howss maill, quhilk the thesaurar is ordanit to pay to him conforme to ane act maid thairupoune.

10th December, 1575.

The said day, the counsell for the maist pairt being present, grantit, consentit, gaiff, and disponit to thair servitour, Maister Williame Carmychall, maister of thair Grammer Schuill, for bringin up, teching, and instructing of the barnes and schollaris thairof, in vertew, lerning, letteris, and guid manneris, all and haill an yeirlie pensioun of fiftie markis vsuall money of Scotland, to be payit to him be the thesaurar of the said burgh yeirlie at twa vsuall terms of the yeir, Vitsonday and Martimes, be twa equall portionis induring all the dais of his lyftyme, vpon his quiet bering, and induring their villis.

22nd December, 1575.

The said day, the provest and bailleis and maist part of the counsell

being conuenit, consultand upoune ane act of preuilege grantit be thame to the barnis and schollaris of thair Gramer Schuill, fra the tuentie day of December to the sevint day of Januar, to have thair libertie fra lering and discipline induring that tyme, the consell heirwitht being ryplie aduysit and consultit heiron, findis inconuenientis followand thairon, quhairfor thai witht adwysiement annullis and abrogatis the forsaid act and preuilege, to hawe na strentht nor effect in na tyme cuming, and this to be deuulgat and publicit at the croce, swa that giff thai be ony particular personis of the town fortifiaris fra than furtht of the inobedience of the abrogatioun, thai to be callit and accusit as brakaris of the commoun weill, and inobediens to the town. 22nd Dec., 1575.

25th January, 1576.

The said day, the decanis of the craftis efter following, viz :—Patrik Malysoun, decain to the Hemmermen; James Banerman and Alex^r. Ranaldsoun, decanis to the Baxsteris; Johnne Sanderis, decain to the Cordinaris; [ ] decanis to the Tailzeouris; and [ ] decain to the Vobsteris, being varnit to this day, and compeiring personalie befoir the counsell of this burght, war accusit for thame selffis and the remanent of their craft, for the manteining of the tuenty-fyft day of December last bipast, as ywill day, halding the same haly day, and absteining fra labour for the maist pairt, witht festing and playing, contrair the tennor of the act maid by my Lord Regent Grace, and Lordis of Secreit Counsell, at his being in Abirdeine upoun the auchtene day of August, the yeir of God jai v^c thre scoir fourtaine yeiris, quha ansuirit that thay and the remanent of thair craft that was suspectit of the said innormatie, war callit and accusit thairfor, befoir the minister and assemblie of the kirk, and at thair desyir purgit thame selffis thereof particularlie, ilk ane for himselff upoun his consciens; and lykwayis, the saidis decanis presentlie at the desyir of the counsell purgit thame selffis on their consciens, that thay mantenit nocht the said superstitiouis festuall dayis, nor knew nocht ane of thair craft that manteinit the samin; and the counsell ordanit thame to obserue the said act and ordinance of the dait foirsaid in tyme cuming, and gif thay com in the contrair, ilk decain to pay fiyve markis, and ilk craftisman fourtie s., to be applyit to the hospitall, and to sett cautioun for the samin; and ilk

25th Jan., 1576. ane of the sadis decanis become cautioun for thame selff and thair awin craft.

24th February, 1576.

The said day, the haill town being laychtfully warnit to this day be the hand bell in generall, and be the officiaris passand throucht all the haill rewis and streittis thairof in particular, and being conuenit, for the maist part representand the haill bodie of the town, thai all in ane voice electit, nominat, and chesit Maister George Johnnstoun, commissioner for thame, to pass to the town of Edinburght to the conuention of the borrowis, to be haldin within the said burght of Edinburght, upoun the ferd day of Merche nixt to cum, thair to consult, awyss, and deliberat witht the commissionaris of the borrowis for ordour taking upoun certane effeiris concerning the veil and commoditie of the merchandis of the haill borrowis, and specialie tuiching the estent and contributioun of ten thousand poundis grantit be the borrowis to my Lord Regentis Grace for the bulyeoun, and thair for thame to ressoune, the custume and cokkataris buikis to produce and exhibit, for setting of the said estent, and to consent to sic uther thingis as selbe thocht expedient concernyng the veill of the estait of the borrowis, and ordanis him to have for his expensiss the sowme of fourtie merkis.

1st October, 1576.

The said day, the provest, baillies, counsell, and communitie presentlie being conuenit for the maist pairt in thair heid court, grantit and geiff licence to Maister Alexander Skene, burgess of the said burght and aduocat, admitted to our Sourane Lordis sessioun befoir the Lordis of Counsell, to duell and remain absent of this burth, within the burth of Edinburght, or quhair it sall happin the said session to be for the tyme, for the space of three yeiris nixt and immediatlie following the dait of thir presentis, nothwithtstanding that the said Maister Alexander be obleist and astrictit be the statutis and actis of this burght to duell and remane vithin the samen, in respect that he is presentlie ane heretabill possessour of ane half nettis fischeing of the Mydchingill upoun the watter of Dee, haldin in fewferme heretabillie of the said communitie, and that for diuerss causies and considerationis mouing thame, and specialie be-

causs the said Mr. Alex^r. procuris for thame in all thair actionis and caussis, befoir the saidis Lordis of Counsell, withtout gratificatioun and recompensatioun, frelie on his awin expenssis. 1st October, 1576.

5th October, 1576.

It is statut and ordanit be the provest, baillies, consell, witht consent of the communitie present for the tyme, being conuenit on the gill court day, and that na burges of gild nor dekin of craft quhatsumeuir withtin this burght, be fund werand ane plaid fra the feist of Sanct Martein nixt to cum in ony time thairefter withtin the burtht, under the pain of fourtie s. to be uptakin onforgewin fra the persouns apprehendit wering the said plaid efter the forsaid feist of Sanct Martein, and the plaid to be gewin to the hospitall to thair support, that ar pleset thairin.

Item, it is statuit and ordanit that the four officiaris electit and chosin this present yeir, and siclyk all that sall happin to be chosin officiaris of this burght in ony tyme heirefter, sall hawe and weir daylie ane halbart on thair schulder, quhairby thai sall be knawin be utheris, and the persoun refussand being chosin officiar to weir the said halbard to be dischargeit of his office, and ane uther to be electit and chesit in his plaice quha will veir the samyn, and siclyk it is statuit and ordanit witht consent of the haill town, that euerie brother of gild, marcheand, and craftisman, sall hawe in all tyme cuming fra the feist of Sanct Martein nixt to cum, ane halbard, dence aiks, or geweling withtin his boith, under the pain of tuentie s. to be uptakin fra ilk persoun wantand the samyn onforgeiffin.

It is statuit be the provest, baillies, and consell of this guid toun, that the townis landimaris be ridden anes euerie yeir, and specialie upoun the fyftene day of Aprill, geiff it fall nocht upoun ane Sounday, and geiff it fallis on ane Sonday, Twysday nixt thairefter, to wisit and cognosce the rycht methis, boundis, and mercheis of this burght and commountie thairof; and quhair the commound and communitie is fund hurt, the same to be reformit witht all diligence.

The said day, it is statuit and ordanit that na mutton be sauld in the

5th October, 1576.

mercat nor fleschowse bot of the pryces following, viz.: the best muttwn buik for xiiii. s., and secundar for xii. s. and x. s., effeiring to the guidness of the stuff, vnder the pane of escheting thairof; and that na beiff be sauld in the mercat nor in the fleschowse on to the tyme that the baillies, with certan sworne comprysaris, comprysit the samin, and putt ane competent pryce thairon effeiring to the guidness of the stuff, vnder the pane of escheting thairoff; and for obseruatioun of this statuit Magister George Mydiltoun is appoyntit baillie to the saidis flesceouris. And that the fische mercat be haldin in tyme cuming within the ayrin ring in the eistheid of the Castellgett; and that the said fische mercat nor flesche mercat be on na way in tyme cuming on the Saboth day, fra the ringing of the first bell afoir nwn and eftir nwne quhill the sermen be done, vnder the pane of escheting of the fische and fleche apprehendit, to the puir folkis; and that na middiniss be sufferit nor permittet to be on the kingis commound gett in na tyme cuming, vnder the pane of tuentie s. onforgeivin to be vptakin of the gadderer thairof.

15*th October*, 1576.

The said day, the provest and baillies geif charge and command the haill craftismen being varnit to this day, and compeirand for the maist pairt, that thai cheiss thair decanis of thair craftis respectiue upoun the morne efter Michalmes curt yeirlie, to exerce the said office for the space of ane yeir, and to present the said decanis to be sowrne in the gill court yeirlie to exerce the said office after Michaelmes, to the quhilk thai consentit.

29*th December*, 1576.

The said day, the counsell underwrittin, that is to say, &c., ratefeit and apprewit the act and ordinans maid be the counsell befoir, to geif Mr. Johnne Kennedy, Maister of Sanct Thomas Hospitall, the sowme of fywe markis yeirlie induring his lyftime, for the renuncing and ourgeifing of his plaice, tytil, and enteres of the cheppell and yard of the said hospitall in fauouris of the communitie of this burth, to erect and sustene ane hospitall thairupoun, conforme to the new fundatioun sett out be the provest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of the said burch, and ordanis thair thesaurar quhatsumeuer for the tyme, to ansuer and obey him thairof yeirlie and termlie in tyme cuming.

10*th July*, 1577.

10th July, 1577.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsell present for the tyme, statut, devysit, and ordanit, that this burght in all tyme heireftir sal be servit in peit leding and uther fewall witht the personis of this burght, hawyng and hyring horssis for xii. d. euerie horss ilk day, witht mannis meit and horss meit, and of na grytar prices, and to haff four gang ilk day, and the contravenar of this statut to be depryuit of his fredome of this burght, and nocht sufferit to haff ony horssis thairintill heireftir.

9*th August*, 1577.

The said day, the bailleis decernit and ordanit Besse Stewynsounne, Margret Stewynsounne, and [ ] Skynner, alias Mengzes, quha war conuict obefoir in the fylthie cryme of fornicatioun, committit be thame, withtin the houss of Elezabetht Annand, witht Johnne Weyr, in sic abhominabill sort nocht worthie to be rehersit, to be baneist and exylit of this gud toune, and fredome thairoff in all tyme cuming, and thay nocht to be sufferit to remane langar within this burght nor Monunday nixt cumis, but to depart of the samyn, and gif thai be apprehendit withtin this toun efter Monunday nixt the xii. of this instant, to be brynt and baneist for euir.

4*th October*, 1577.

The said day, the consell grantit the soume of four pundis to the support of James Symsoune, doctour of thair Sang Scuill, under Sir Johnne Blak, to help to by him cloythis, for his gud seruice the tym bygane, and in houp of his contineuance in tym to cum, and ordanis the Denis of Gild to ansuir hym thairoff.

The said day, the Consell grantit the soume of fourtie s. to be gevyn to Richert Mylen, thair commoun seruand, for keiping of the toune fra commoun beggaris extranearis, nocht borne and bred withtin this toune, to his support, to by hym a garmonth of claythis, and thairupoun the tounis armes to be sett, and remittis hym to the sessioun to be helpit and aidit als be thame, in respect his office concernis mare pairt the ecclesiasticall jurisdictioun.

8*th October*, 1577.

The said day, in presens of Robert Mengzes, ane of the ballies off the

h October, 1577.

said burght, Androw Kyng, burgess of the forsaid burght, grantit and confessit hym to haf receavit and gottyn at the makyng heiroff, fra the handis of Dauid Andersoune and Hew Heruie, burgessis of the said burght, keiparis of the siluir left in legaceis, and vtherwayis collectit to the beidmen and convent of Sanct Thomas Hospitall, ffundat and presentlie provydit withtin this burght, witht consent and aduyss of Maister Johnne Crag, minister thairoff, remanent eldaris and decanis of the kirk and sessioun of the said burght, the soume of ane hundretht poundis usuall monee of this realme, collectit to the said hospitalitie for thame and thair successouris sustentatioun thairoiff in tyme cuming fra the personis departit eftir following : That is to say, left in legaceis be umquhile Alex. Andersone, fader to the said Dauid, to the said hospitalite, ten poundis ; be Patrik Mengzes of Ferrehill ten poundis ; the merchandis of the schip off Abirdeine, callit the Androw, in thair weage furtht and hame fra Danskyn, ten poundis ; be Willeam Gardyn, fleschear, ten s. ; Cristane Straquhyn, spous and relict of umquhill Johnne Sowlis, xl. s. ; Elspet Wandy, relict of umquhill James Andersoun, four poundis viii. s. x. d. ; be umquhill Thomas Cargill, fyve merkis ; and the rest of the said soume furneist furtht of the penaliteis and utheris of the kirk and sessioun of the said burght, &c.

22*nd November*, 1577.

The said day, anent the complaynt gevyn in be the commonis of this burght toward the exorbitant dartht of victuall and penurite thairoff, be the occassoun of careing away of the samyn furtht of this hevyn of Abirdeine to uther placeis, as in the said complaynt at mair lyntht is contenit, the ballies and consell being convenit for the maist, witht the consent of the grytest pairt of the communite present for the tyme, devysit and ordanit that na victuall be sufferit to pass furtht of this port and hevyn of Abirdeine to uther portis, in na schip, crear, nor boit, that beis laid withtin this hevyn, bot to arreist and stay the samen quhill the toun and inhabitantis thairoff be first servit with the samyn, for semable payment as the mercat standis, conforme to thair auld liberte and preuilege quhilk thai haf thairupoune, and conforme to the statut and ordinance maid thairanent obefoir, quhilk thai ratefie and appreiff, of the dait the 26 day of Aprill the yeir of God jai v^{c} saxtie and sex yeiris, and to that effect ordanit the twa boitis presentlie withtin this hevyn ladnit witht

beir, to be stayit and arrestit, quhairoff the maister of the ane is callit Wilyeam Lyell, and the maister of the uther boit callit Robert Lokart, conducit be Androw Jak, burges of this burght, for transporting of the said Androw beir presentlie withtin the said boit furtht of the hevyn off Abirdene to the port and hevyn off Leytht, quhilkis twa boitis laidnit witht beir, as said is, the ballies and consell ordanit to be lossit and dischargit, and the victuall and beir to be sold to the inhabitantis of this burght upoun competent pryces, as the ballies and consell sall devyss. 22nd Nov., 1577.

19*th January*, 1578.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consell ordanit Walter Cullen reidar and wicar of Abirdene, to be ansuerit and obeyit of the haill teyndis belonging to the said vicarege, sic as lamb, geyss, lynte, eggis, woll, hempt, and utheris deueteis belonging to the said vicarege, and for euerie mylk cow to haff tuelff penneis, and ordanis the inhabitantis of this burght to ansuir and obey hym thairoff during his lyftym, and the officieris to poynd and distrengze thairfor gif neid beis.

26*th January*, 1578.

The said day, Merzeoun Wychtoun and Cristane Young war decernit in judgment, witht thair awyn consentis, to top and sell the feir off feggis and raisingis off the prices following, and na darar; that is to say, the pound of feggis for ii. s., and the pound of raisengs for xxx. d.; and the ballies inhibit the saidis personis to by ony taucht, butir, or eggis withtin the burght or fredome thairoff, or schoir of the samyn, except sic as cumis fra the southt partis in ony tym cuming, under the paneis of confiscatioun and baneisment.

21*st February*, 1578.

The said day, Johnne Duquharis, cordenar, was convictit, in presens off the consell, and als in the fensit court, for the detracting, mispersonyng, and sklandering off the ballies, saying that thai wrangously and maisterfully reft and spulzeit his geir fra hym of malice, without ony ordour off iustice or respect to reasoune, and maid actis againis hym thairupoun as thai lykit; quharfor the consell and ballies dischargit the said Johnne of his fredome, as ane persone unlauchtfull, unvorthie, and unhabile, in respect of the premissis, and of dyuerss utheris offenssis committit be hym

1st February, 1578. obefoir, as the actis maid thairupoune schawyn to the consell mair fullely proportis, in the sessioun of this burght, in presens of the minister, eldaris, and decanis thairoff, being accusit be the said minister for deubill adulterie, and utheris haynouss crimes committit be hym.

7th November, 1578.

The said day, the consell ratifeit and approvit the actis and statutis maid obefoir, anent the halding of swyne within this burght, and ordanis the samen to be put to executioun, and proclamatioun to be maid at the mercat croce, and alsua be the hand bell throw all the rowis of the toune, that all personis halding or hawing swyne within this burght sall expell the samen within xv. dayis efter the dait of thir presentis; with certificatioun giff thay do nocht, that the commoune burreour sall slay and distroye all the swyne that sall happyn to be found without ane house, and sall escheit the carcageis thairof; and it sall be lesum to quhatsumewir personne apprehendand the said swyne in thair awin skaytht, or thair nichtbouris skaytht, or vpon the commountie of Castelhill, Womanhill, Kirkyard, or Linx vertand the ertht, to distroy the samen in maner forsaid; and in likwayes thai ordaine the statute maid on the myddingis to be obseruit and keipit.

15th November, 1578.

The said day, Andrew Riddell being accusit in jugement be the denis of gild for the regrating and forstalling of this gud toune in bying of gryt salt, irne, lynt, hempt, pik and tar, and selling of the samen in the portis of Peterheid and Faythtlie and utheris portis withtin the fredome of this, the said Androw nocht beand free burgess thairof, compeirit the said Androw and grantit the samen, quharfor he was convict and in amerciament of court for ane regrater and forstallar in the poyntis forsaid, to forbeir in tyme cuming, and to amend as law will, and the baillies ordanit hym to set catioun for his unlaw, to be modefeit efterwart be the counsell; and Dauid Low becom cautioun for the said Androw, and the said Androw obleist him to releiff the said Dauid.

1st May, 1579.

The said day, the prouest and baillies ordanit Mr. Johnne Kennedy, thair common clerk, collectour of the contributioun grantit be the inhabi-

tantis of this burgh for the support and releiff of the Scottishe presonaris taken be the Turks at Maroco, to deliuer to Mr. Johnne Craig, minister of Goddis word of this burgh, the sowme of ane hundreth markis vsuall monee, collectit and receauit be him of the said contributioun, and ordanit the said Mr Johnne Kennedy to receave the said Mr Johnne Craigs acquittance thairvpon. 1st May, 1579.

24th July, 1579.

The said day, the ballies ratefeit and affermit the act, statut, and ordinance maid be thair predicessouris, prouest and ballies of the said burght, upoun the tuentie fyft day of Maii, the yeir of God ane thousand fouer hundretht four scoir and sevin yeiris, contenyng in effect that na cattell sall haff pastuir of gress upoun the linx of this brught, nor na uther place on this syd of Gilcomstoun, except the fleschearis wedderis, and thai to be poyndaris, and to haff ane pennie for ilk best that thai fynd thair, and the said act to be put to deu executioun, and obseruit and keipit in all poyntis.

9th October, 1579.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun presentit to the consell be Maister Williame Carmichaell, maister of the grammer schuile of this burght, makand mentioun that he hes his familie to sustene to his gryt charges, and all thing is becum of darar and grytar pryces nor thai wont to be, als weill viuaris and victuallis as the exercitioun of all craftis, swa that he dow nocht to tak sic diligent cuir and labour in his vocatioun and office as he presentlie dois, except the toun of thair gudnes be content that the scholage of the scholaris be augmentit, to the quhilk the prouest, ballies, and consell, grantit, for dyuers respectis and consideratiounis, and consentit to gif him for euerie bairne of induellaris of this toune, thre s. iiii. d. (the purrell being exceptit) euerie quarter of the yeir during the consell will, quhill thai altar this present ordinance.

19th October, 1579.

The said day, the ballies ordanis the officiaris to awyit upon the marcat dayis, that na tymmer of the hilanmen be leid upoun the sowth syid of the tolbuith rail, to stope the marcheandis occupearis of sax marcheant buithis to lay out thair cremis and waris, stopping the pepill to resort to

19th Oct., 1579.

thair marcheand buithis throu stope maid be the said tymmer; and ordanis the officiaris to attend and wytt thairon in tyme cuming, that the saidis occupearis incur na skaytht thairby.

22*nd December*, 1579.

The said day, the counsel being convenit for the maist pairt within the conselhous, resoning upone the exorbitant and gryt compositionis takin be the deconis of the craftis of this burght, fra craftismen and breder of the craft, in admytting thame fre of thair craft aganis thair previlegeis, haiff statut, devysit, and ordanit, that in all tymes cuming, the decain of everie craft sell present the person of craft creven to be admittit frie of the said craft, to the deinis of gild of this said burght, as ane worthie and qualifeit craftisman to be admitted be the town free of his craft, efter dilligent tryell and examinatioun of thair habilitie be the said craft; and that the decanis of thair craft sal nawayis compone witht thame, quhill the person creven to be admittit free of his craft first compone with the said deinis of gild, and be admittit frie be the toun, the maisterstik of the persone to be admittit being exhibit and producit in judgement; and giff ony decain heireftir contraveinis this present ordinance, and acceptis the contrair of the premises, the contravenar to pay als mekill to the deinis of gill of this burght of his awin purss as he happinnit to tak for the compositioun of the craft, and that in presens and witht consent of the deaconis of the saidis craftis.

9*th January*, 1580.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consale of this burght, for obseruatioun of the act of parliament maid in our Souerane Lordis Kyng James the Sext last parliament, the xxv. cheptour, upoun sic personis withtin burght as wrangouslie persewis or defendis ony actionis or caussis in jugement, and upon thame that tynes the pley withtin burght, devysit and ordanit the paneis pecuniall contenit in the said act of parliament to be upliftit and rasit frathynfurtht in all tyme cuming, withtout ony favour or respect of personis, to be applyit to the support of the puir and uther godlie exercitiounis, as the consale sall think expedient; and that the samen salbe sett and rowpit yeirlie to quhatsumeuir person or persons that will giff maist for the samen, and to begyn and be rowpit this day, and siclyk yeirlie in tyme cuming; quhilk being rowpit oppinlie in juge-

ment in presens of the haill communitie, convenit for the maist pairt in thair heid court, thair was offerit for the samen the sowme of fourtie poundis and na mair, and that be Alexander Rutherfurd, &c.: quharfor the same was sett to thame for the said sowme, for the space of ane yeir nixt following the dait heirof, quha obleist thame for payment thairof, and ordanis the samen to be pait to the maister of the kirk wark, quha sall mak compt thairof. 9th January, 1580.

23*rd January*, 1580.

The said day, anent the actioun and clame movit and persewit be James Kar, procuratour and factour for ane nobill and potent Lord Collyne, Erle of Argyill, Lord Cambell and Lorne, &c., aganis Christane Lumisden, the relict of umquhill Johnne Gordoun of Kynmoundie, as intromettour witht the geir and guidis of umquhile the said Johnne pertenying to him, and being in his possessioun the tyme of his deceis, be vertue of ane petitioun, makand mentioun that quhair the said Collyne, Erle of Argyill, hes the gift of all and sindrie the geir and guidis, movabill and unmovabill, dettis, takkis, steddingis, rowmes, possessionis, actis, contractis, actionis, obligationis, reuersionis, cornis, cattell, insicht plenesing, sowmes of monee, gold, siluer, cunyeit or uncunyeit, and wther guidis and geir quhatsumevir, quhilkis pertenyt to the said umquhill Johnne Gordoun, and being in his possessioun the tyme of his deceiss, quhilkis fell and become in our Souerane Lordis hand, and perteining to his grace be reasoun of escheit of bastardie, throw deceiss of the said umquhile Johnne being borne bastard, and decessand bastard, without ony lauchtfull airis gottin of his bodie, or lauchtfull dispositione maid be him of his geir and guidis, and wtheris aboune mentionat in his lyftyme; lyik as in the said Collynis gift and donatione of escheit, grantit and gevin to him be our said Souerane Lord, witht aduise of his secreit counsall, of the dait at Striuiling the nyntene day of Apryll, the yeir of God ane thousand v^e^ and fourscoir yeiris, at mair lyntht is conteinit; and albeit, &c. the said Cristane Lumisden, &c. intromettit witht the geir and gudis wnderwrettin &c., that is to say, ane standand bed of ayik, the pryce thairof ten libs.; ane lang sett bed of fyr, pryce thairof iii. lib.; ane mait buird of ayik branderit, pryce thairof ten lib.; ane mekill forme and twa litillis furmes of fyr, pryce thairoff four lib.; ane Danskin taffell, the pryce ten lib.; twa taffellis, ane small ane gryter, of Scottis wark, pryce fyve lib.; twa

23rd January, 1580.

cofferis, pryce viii. lib.; ane kist of fyr, pryce iii. lib.; threttie pewtar plaittes, pryce viii. libs.; xxxvi. pewtar truncheouris, pryce vii. lib.; ane bassin, pryce xxiiii. s.; four chandlaris, pryce iiii. lib.; four watter pottis, pryce lv. s.; twa pannis, pryce xxviii. s.; twa irne pottis, witht ane wther brassine pott, pryce of the piece iii. lib. xviii. s.; twa speittis, witht twa raxis, pryce thairoff vi. lib.; ane cruik, witht ane rost, irne tanges, and ladill, ane pair of bowlis, pryce thairoff iiii. lib.; four tubbis, pryce thairoff xxxii. s.; twa punscheonis, pryce thairoff xx. s.; ten feddir beddis, witht ten bolstaris, pryce lv. lib.; fourtene pair of blanckattis, pryce thairof xx. lib.; auchtene codvarris witht sextene tyikis, pryce thairof xviii. lib.; thre pair of curtingis, price thairof ten lib.; sevin coveringis, pryce thairof xxxv. lib.; fourtene pair of scheittis, thairof sevin pair round and sevin pair small, pryce of the pair iii. lib ; four pair of heid scheittis, pryce thairof xl. lib.; sex pair of sewit scheittis witht selk, thairof thre pair Holland claytht and thre pair Scottis claytht, pryce of the pair our heid ten merkis; ane dosane of sewit coddis, witht sex pair of heid schettis, sewit, pryce thairof xx. lib.; sex wesching towellis, sewit witht silk, pryce thairof vi. merkis; sevin buird claythtis of lynyng and dornik, pryce of the peice four merkis; fyve wther wesching claythtis, witht twa lang towellis, pryce thairof [ ] fyve dossane of serueittis dornik lyning and hardin, pryce thairof xxxvi. lib. twa [ ] item, twa buirclaythtis, pryce thairof xii. lib.; item, ten cuscheingis, pryce thairof viii. lib.; twa saltene dowblaittis, ane gray, ane blak, pryce of the peice ten lib.; item, ane pair of taffeit breikis, pryce thairof xx. merkis; item, ane taffetie dowblatt, pryce thairof ten merkis; item, tua canves doublaittis of lyens canves cuttit on taffetie, pryce of the peice, ten merkis; item, ane doublatt of blak [ ] cuttit out on taffetie, pryce thairof ten merkis; item, ane pair of satteing breikis, pryce thairof xx. merkis; item, thrie pair of steming breikis, ane blak, ane gray, ane browne, pryce of the peice ten lib.; item, thrie steming cloikis, ane of reid, pryce thairof ten libs., twa of blak, ane lynt witht salting, ane uther witht taffetie, pryce of the peice sextene lib.; item, twa weluet bonnattis, pryce of the peice iii. libs.; item, ane taffetie hatt, pryce iii. lib.; item, ane felt hatt witht the creip, pryce thairof iii. lib.; item, ane skyn coitt witht ane dosane buttonis of gold, ilk buttone extendin to ane crowne weicht of gold, pryce of the coitt and buttonis xxx. lib.; item, sex pair of schankis, tua pair of silk, pryce of

the pair x. lib., four pair of steming, pryce of the pair iii. lib., ane swourd, the pryce ten lib., ane gilt quhinger, pryce iii. lib., ane dossone siluer sponis, contenand ilk peice ane unce and half unce, pryce of ilk peice xxxiii. s. iiii. d.; twa siluer tassis of ten unce weycht the peice, pryce of ilk peice xxiiii. merkis, [ ] Quharfor the ballies decernit and ordanit the said Cristane to deliuer and restoir the insicht geir and guidis aboune wretin, to the said James Kar as factour and procuratour for the said Collyne, Erll of Argyill, &c. &c. 23rd January 1580.

17th March, 1580.

Item, the consale and comunite has consentit and ordanit, becauss of apperance of weyr, that this toune be strynthnit aboute with certan fossis, to the making of the quhilkis thai haf grantit to gif and pay certan contributioun, be the ordinance of the alderman and certan of the consale.

13th May, 1580.

The said day, the haill toune being lauchtfullie warnit, &c., it was exponit to thame be Gilbert Mengzes of Petfoddellis, thair provest, quhow that he hes gottin aduertisment fra Edinburght in ureit, that our maister the Kingis Maiestie (quhome God preserve) is to cum shortlie to visie the northt partis of this realme, and specialie this burght; and that it is nocht unknawin to thame of the rait and lowabill consuetud of this realme in all tyme bigane; and that at quhatsumeuir tyme his grace progenitouris Kyngis of Scotland of gud memorie happynnit to visie and repair to the maist honorabill burrowis of this realme, that at the tyme of thair first entrie and presentatioun of thame selffis thairunto, thai used to receive thair said Souerane Lord and Kyng witht willing and glaid hartis, schawing significatioun thairof at thair uitermaist power to receive and glaid the Kyngis Maiestie with fasceis, playeis, historeis, antikis, and sic uther decoratioun as was thocht expedient for the tyme; and also, to propyne thair graces witht ane honorabille propyne of gold, waks, and spyce, and uther prouision, to the furnesing of his graces houss; and specialie this burght was euir radie to do sic decoratiouin and plese at the first entre of thair Prince and Kyng at thair utermaist power according to thair substance and facultie, and inquyrit at the communite, being convenit be lauchtfull warnying as said is, for the maist pairt to the effect under wretin, gif thai wald do the lyk now as thair predicessouris burgessis

13th May, 1580.

and inhabitantis of this burght did obefoir, gif it happinit our said Maister the Kingis Grace to hald furth his purposs in visiting this his Graces puir towne, of the quhilkis thai all in ane voice bot contradictioun war glad, content, and consentit thairto, and for preparation of the premissis consentit to collect, lift, and gadder, ane taxatioun of the sowme of thrie thowsand markis usuall monee of this realme, and for setting of the said stent and taxatioun, nominat and chesit the personis under wretin ; that is to say, Robert Mengzes, Alexander Rutherfurd, ballies ; John Lawsoune, Androw Huntar, Alexander Forbes, &c., stentaris and taxaris, quha war sworne the gryt aitht to stent the samen upon the nychtbouris and inhabitantis of this burght, ilk ane conforme to his substance and facultie, according to thair conscience, knawlege, and understanding.

5th September, 1580.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consale, acceptit, receavit, and admittit Maister Thomas Cargill to be maister of the grammer schuill of this burgh, to instruct thair barnis in knawlege and maneris as it becumis him of his office induring his guid seruice and the will of the consell, and ordanis him to haff the samen yeirlie stipend quhilk Maister Williame Carmichaell, his predicessour, last maister thairof, had of the toune obefoir, towit fiftie merkis.

7th October, 1580.

Als it is statut aud ordanit, that the fische merkat of this burght in all tyme cuming salbe haldin withtin the irne ryng, and round about the fische croce, and that the said fische merkat nor yit flesche merkat be on na way in tyme cuming on the Sabboth day, fra the ringing of the first bell afoir nune and efter nune quhill the sermun be done, under the pane of escheting of the fische and flesche apprehendit, to the puir folkis ; and that myddings be sufferit in tyme cuming to be on the Kingis gett, bot lesum to any man tuentie four houris being past, eftir onlaying of the said mydding, to carie the samen away, but ony perell of law or danger.

15th October, 1580.

The said day, the provest, ballies, and consell hes statut and ordanit, that the blak smytht sall tak and receive for the gang of the grytest horss

schone, sex s. viii. d.; smaller horss and neggis, four s.; and the contravenar heirof to pay fourtie s. on forgevin. 15th October 1580.

1st December, 1580.

The said day, William Jak was admittit be the consale to be maister of Sant Thomas Hospitall, to attend thairon, and on the propirte and casualiteis of the samyn for the yeir to cum, and was sworne to exerce the said office lelely and trewlie.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consell ordanit the denis of gild to ansuir James Reid of tuentie merkis for his labour and travell taken in purchessing Maister Alex^r^. Arbuthnot to be minister to this burght, and ane honorable stipend to him, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair nixt comptis.

21st December, 1580.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consale, reasonying and consalling vpon the enormities committit be disourdourit barnis and scholaris of the grammer schuil of this burgh, and vtheris schulis within the samen, in taking of the schuill, vsurping aganis the maister and magistrates this tyme of yeir afoir yuill callit natiuite of our Lord, thairby fosterand the ald ceremonie and rite of preuelege that was wont to be grantit to thame, quhilk the consell obefoir throchlie aduysit hes altogidder abrogatit and dischargit; for remeid thairof that na sic attemptatis nor enormities be committit in ony tyme heirefter, the prouest, baillies, and consale hes statut and ordanit that in all tyme cuming, all gentilmannis soneis to landward as burgessis soneis within the burgh that sall happyn to be presentit to ony maister of schuill within this burgh the scholar and barne sall, be the maister to quhome he is enterit, be presentit to the prouest and baillies, or euer he be receavit within ony schuill of this burgh, and sall set cautioun of burgessis, induellaris of Abirden, that the scholar presentit sall obey the magistrat and maister and sall nawayis vsurpe aganis the ordinance of the consell, wnder the paine of ten poundis more of penaltie, to be paid be the cautionar for the barne transgressing, and ane act to be maid thairon, and the barne and

21st Dec., 1580. cautionaris name registrat in the townis buikis, and this act to be publist oppinlie in the puipit on Sonday nixt.

13*th February*, 1581.

The said day, the haill brethrene and burgessis of gild of this burght, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, and convenand, &c., it was exponit to thame be Robert Menzes, baillie, at command of the remanent bailleis and counsell of the said burght, quhow that Johnn Duncan, Jon Roray, talyeouris; James Banerman, baxster; and Patrick Leithe, armorar, pretending to leive at thair awin libertie and licentius fredome, hes purchest letteris of lawborrowis aganes the prouest, baillies, counsell, and ane gryt pairt of the communite that ar of maist estimatioun and honestie, intending thairby to leive within this burght without ony correctioun or ordour, by and attour the accustomet lawis and lauchtfull constitutionis of this burght, suppressing to the Kyngis Maiestie and Lordis of Sessioun, and als to the Lordis of Secreit Counsell, quhow that thai ar culpable and maist justlie convict be the lauchtful lawis and louabill constitutionis of this burght, to haif tynt thair fredome maist justlie, and decreits past upone thame to that effect, quhairunto thai wald nocht obey bot war plane repugnant, and that thai, wnder colour and pretence of the allegit frad and lawborrowis, wald eschew all kynd of ordour and justice, they nevir heffing ony just caus quhairby thay micht haif socht lawborrowis of the haill magistrattis berand offices withtin this burght, nor yit can thay schaw ony iniurie done to thame be ony of the magistratis, or thai convict thairin, and thairfor desyrit the counsell and brethrene of gild presentlie convenit to provyid remeid thairfor be ordour of justice, and efter the reductioun judicialie of the decreitis lauchtfullie led aganis the saidis four personis, being justlie fand and declarit to haif tint thair fredome, of the quhilk number Patrik Leithe being cummin obedient, offerit him to leive wnder our Souerane Lordis lawis and statutis of this burght, quhome the counsell judicialie receavit witht sic wther iniunctionis lefull, that he suld nocht transgress in tyme cuming: thairfor the counsell, seing the fornamet thrie persones remaning obstinat, and travelland dalye to raiss uproir, sisme, and diuisioun withtin this burght and bowallis thairof, contemnantlie refusing all dewtifull obediens to thair superiouris and magistratis wnder the Kyngis Maiestie, to the evile of the guid burght, gif

remeid war nocht provydit for correcting of the saidis licentius persones, and to avoid the evill exampill and cumpany of the saidis thrie persones, it was ordanit, consentit, and grantit to, that na burgess of gild suld set ony duelling houss or buitht to ony of thame, nor keip secretis witht thame, or gif thame ony labour or manuall exercitioun of thair craft in tyme cuming, in respect thai ar dischargit of thair fredome and fundin be the decretis producit unprofitabill nieberis of the commoun weltht of this burght, rasers of uproar, sesime, and diuisioun, withtin the bowallis thairof, unto the tyme they cum to obedience of our Soueran Lordis lawis and lauchtfull statutis of this burght, and be receavit be the magistratis thairof, quhairunto the haill bredrene of gild consentit but ony contradictioun; and siclyk it was statute and ordanit that all wther craftismen withtin this burght that hes or schall happin to be decernit iustlie to haif tynt thair fredome for the lyik caussis, incure the lyk pane unto the tyme thai be receavit as obedient to our Soverane Lordis lawis and lovabill statutis of this burght. 13th February, 1581.

1*st March*, 1581.

The said day, it was considderit be the counsell, and exponit to the haill communitie, being warnit to this day and convenit for the maist pairt, quhow that the craftismen of this burght mening to furthtset the causs interprysit be thame aganis the frie burgessis of gild of this burght, and to furthset the samen be expenssis and wther moyanis, hes grantit and obleist thame selffis to contribute and collect ane taxatioun amangis thame selffis olklie, quhilk will extend to ane gryt soume in the yeir, and thairfor to resist and defend the said wrangws interpreiss, and to furneiss the expenssis to be maid thairupon, the hail communitie all in ane voce grantit and consentit to mak ane olklie stent and contributioun, to be uptakin of everie frie burgess of gild, swa that the samen exceid nocht twa s. of ilk persone at the maist, and be nocht wnder [ ] penneis of ilk persone at the leist, and ordanis [ ] persones to be chosin to stent and set the said contributioun, and for collectouris to gadder and receave the samen, vizt., Alex$^{r.}$ Forbes, Alex$^{r.}$ Howesoun, eldar, W$^{m.}$ Lorymer, and Dauid Fergussoun, ilk ane of ane quarter of the toun, to be collectit anes everie quarter of the yeir, and the foirsaidis sowmes not to be imployit on na wther caus nor wark, bot to the effect aboun wrettin wnto the finall end thairof, and ordanis the saidis collec-

1st March, 1581. touris to delyuer the samen in keping everie quarter togidder, to Thomas [ ] and to the said Williame Lorymer, to be keparis and disponeris thairof, be the avyse and ordinans of the counsell.

3rd April, 1581.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consale, understanding that the inhabitantis of this burght, als weill burgessis of gild as craftismen, perseuis thair actionis ciuill befoir the commissar of Abirdene, the decisioun of the quhilkis actionis propirlie pertenis to the provest and ballies of this burght, far aganis the lowabill custume of uther burrowis, quhais inhabitantis persuis and defendis all thair actionis ciuill befoir thair ordinar magistratis, to wit prouest and ballies of the burght quhairof thai ar induellaris, and befoir na uther juge, except it be in weychtie actionis, quhilkis thai persew befoir the lordis of sessioun, and in sic actionis as belangis to defunctis quhilkis thai persew onlie befoir the commissar of the dioscie; and thairfor devysit and ordanit that na nychtbour of this burght persew ane uther befoir the commissar of Abirdene in tyme cuming, for ony ciuill caus, but onlie befoir the prouest and ballies of this burght, thair ordinar juges, except it be for deidis, geir, tochir geir, and sic as belangis to testamentis, wnder the pane of ten poundis to be upliftit of the contravenar.

16th June, 1581.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consale, statut and ordanit, that quhatsumewir persone or personis beis apprehendit castand staneis, ballast of scheippis, or boittis, or crearis, or quhatsumewir uther [ ] withtin the trinite burne, to stop the boittis keillis or crearis to haf passage thairin to the peir and key heid, that he being convick thairfor, sall pay ane unlaw of fourtie s. on forgevin.

14th August, 1581.

The said day, the haill craftismen free and unfree of this burght quhais nameis eftir followis, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, and accusit in jugement for passing to the kyngis grace, and his hienes lordis of secreit consale, and thair be moyanne of court, sinister and wrang informatioun, hes purchest ane gift and preuilege of our said Souerane Lord, witht aduyse of the said secreit consale, aganis the liberte and preuilege

of free burgessis and brethir of gild of this burght, tending to usurpe thair libertie and commodite in bying and selling of merchandrice, uterly belanging the exercitioun and vocatioun of the said free brether of gild, siclyk as the craftismen of the burghis of Edinburght, Dundie, and Pertht hes usurpit and usit and yit usis; the quhilk preuilege and libertie the craftismen of this burght war neuir in use of, nor neuir bruikit nor josit the samen at na tyme bygane, and oftymes hes pressit and attemptit thairto, and euir be ordour of iustice war reiectit and repulsit thairfra, tending heirthrow to raiss and engener seditioun, schisme, and tumult, betwixt the saidis free burgessis of gild, and the saidis craftismen of this burght, quhairthrow gryt truble and inconueniens may enseu and follow; and the saidis craftismen being particularlie inquyrit, ilk ane be his awin name, gif thay wald awow, abyd, stand be, adhere, and mantene the said pretendit gift and preuilege, or gif thay wald leif witht rest and quyatnes upon thair awin craft and vocatioun, as thai and thair predicessouris withtin this burght did, usit, bruikit, and josit, in all tyme bygane; quhilkis craftismen for the maist pairt, that is to say, Johnne Banermann, &c., allegit that thai war ignorant and knew nocht of the rasing and purchesing of the said new preuilege, and war nocht participant thairof, and thairfor wald nocht awow, afferme, nor adhere thairto, but uterlie past thairfra, witht all uther preuilegis, giftis, and lettres purchest and to be purchest thairanent in tyme cuming; and war content and obleist thame selffis to leif at quyatnes, and rest upone thair awin vocatioun, craftis, and exercitioun thairof, allanerlie, as thai war wont, without ony nouatioun or alteratioun, to be purchest and socht be thame or thair successouris at ony tyme cuming, nochtwithtstanding ony liberteis or preuilegis contrar the commoun weill, vocatioun, and exercitioun of free burgessis of gild grantit to the craftismen of sum uther burrowis of this realme, renuncing the samen for thame and thair successouris perpetually and for euir; and certane utheris of the saidis craftismen, quhais names eftir followis, that is to say, Mathow Guild, armorar, &c., affermit and adherit to the said new purchest preuilege quhilk is grantit to thame be the kyngis maiestie as thai allegit, as craftismen of utheris burrowis hes obtenit obefoir, and the remeid heirof was referrit be the haill communite, to the discretioun, advysment, and ordinance of the prouest, ballies, and consale of this burght, and obleist thame selffis to assist, 14th August, 1581.

14th August, 1581. concur, and contribute at thair utermaist power, for fynding and using of the said remeid be ordour of law and justice.

15*th August*, 1581.

The said day, Patrik Leithe, armorar, was convick and put in amerciament of court be the depositionis of dyuerss famouss witnessis, sworne and examinit, for the streiking of William Gray, bruder to Gilbert Gray, ballie, witht ane halbert, in presens of the said Gilbert Gray, ballie, executing his office, to forbeir in tyme cuming and to amend as law will, and that wes gevin for dome be the mouth of Johnne Smytht, dempster; and the prouest, ballies, and consale, advysing upon the grauite of the falt, understanding the samen done in mere contempt, tending se far as lay in the said Patrik to raiss tumult and discord betuixt the free burgessis of gild of this burght and the craftismen thairof, thairfor dischargit the said Patrik of his fredome, and ordanit him to be baneist this burght and fredome thairof for euir in all tyme cuming.

23*rd August*, 1581.

The said day, the provest, ballies, and consell of this burght, statut and ordanit that in tyme cuming na personis salbe bureit within the parroche kirk of Abirdene, without payment of xxx. s. of ilk person for his lair siluir, except onlie sic personis as hes fundationis in the said parroche kirk, fundit be thair parentis of the samyn blude notourlie knawin; and that the sacrist or his deput keipar of the kirk sall nocht oppin the pament of the said kirk for bureing of ony person, without speciall command of the maister of the kirk wark, or ane ballie in his absance; and that the said maister of kirk wark or ballie gevand command thairto, sall tak no cautioun or souertye for payment of the said lair siluir, bot onlie hand payment or sufficient plagis, and gif thai do, to ansuer for the same; and gif the said kirk keipar oppynnis ony graiffe within the said kirk without command as said is, to be depryuit of his office.

28*th August*, 1581.

The said day, Johnn Duncan, talyour, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, lyik as it hes bene dyuerss tymes obefor, personalie apprehendit to compeir befoir the provest, ballies, and counsal of this burght, to ansuir

for certane crymes and enormiteis committit and doin be him, and specialie for the resing of schisme and seditioune in this burght, betuix the breddir of gild and craftismen thairof, quha being oftymes callit, comperit nocht, bot obstinatlie refusit to compeir, and wald nocht ansuir befoir the saidis provest and ballies, allegend he hed wtheris quhome he wald prefer to the saidis provest and ballies, quharfor the saidis provest, ballies, and counsell procedit and tuik tryell and probatioun in the said mater, be the quhilk it was fundin that the said Johnn Duncan was the principall inuentar, beginner, and author of the said tumult, schisme, and dissensioun resit betuixt the saidis burgessis of gild and the sadis craftismen, and in respect thairof and of his wulfull and obstinat inobediens, depryvit the said Jon Duncan of the fredome of his craft induring the counsellis will. 28th August, 1581.

26th December, 1581.

The said day, the provest, ballies, and consale taking ordour with the disordourit barnis and scholaris of the grammer schuill of this burght, quha presentlie hes takyn the schuill, menyng to haue the ald preuilege quhilk was wont to be grantit to thame at this tyme of yeir about yuill, quhilk altogidder the consale obefoir be dyuerss actis and statutis had dischargit, remittit and dischargit frelie the saidis scholaris of all offenceis bypast, and statut and ordanit in presens of the maister of the said grammer schuill, and the maist pairt of the saidis scholaris, that na preuilege salbe grantit to thame, nor na scholaris of the said grammer schuill, nor yit na uther schuill withtin this burght, at the tyme of yuill in na tyme cuming; and in place thairof, the provest, ballies, and consale ordanit the saidis scholaris to haf, in the begynnyng of ilk raith or quartar in the yeir, thre dayis, makand in the haill tuelf dayis in the yeir.

23rd March, 1582.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and consale, ordanit Alex^{r} Forbes and Dauid Indeaucht, deanes of gild, to consent and pay to Walter Cullane, redar of thair paroche kirk, the sowme of ten poundis monee, restand awand to him on payit for his fee in reiding of the prayeris eftir nune, for the Whitsonday terme last bypast, conforme to the act and ordinance of the counsale maid thairanent obefoir, of the dait the third day of Januar, the yeir of God ane thousand v^{c} four scoir and ane yeiris, quhilk sall be allowit to thame in thair comptis.

4th Sept., 1582.

14*th September*, 1582.

The said day, Gilbert Guthrie, burgess of Abirdene, and merchemond herald, renunceund his awin jurisdictioun, and submittand him to the iurisdictioun of the provest and baillies of Abirdene, in this cace, bund and obleist him to ansuir, obey, and mak guid and thankfull payment to Mr. Piter Blakburne, minister of Abirdene, of his yeirlie stipend of thrie hundreytht merkis, or sa mekill as salbe assignit to him in stippend, out of the reddiest of the thirdis of the bischoprik of Abirdene, during the tyme of the said Mr. Piteris ministrie withtin this burght, at twa termes in the yeir, Witsonday and Martimes, be equall portionis frelie, begynnand the first termes payment at the feist of Mairtimes nixt cumis, the said Mr. Piter gettand ane assignatioun thairof, and lettres thairupoun, except the kingis maiestie or auctoritie of Scotland discharge the samen.

The said daye, Alexander Rutherfurd, ballie, and Williame Mengzes, elder, burgessis of Abirdene, band, actit, and obleist thame, thair airis, executouris, and assignais, coniunctlie and seuerallie, to content, refound, and pay to Maister Piter Blakburne, minister of Abirdene, the sowme of ane hundreytht merkis wsuall money of Scotland yeirlie, sa lang as the said Mr. Piter is minister of Abirdene, at twa termes in the yeir, Witsonday and Martimes, be twa equall portionis, begynnand the first termes payment at Martimes next cumis, and the provest, baillies, and counsale of the said burght, obleist thame to releiff the said Alex$^{r.}$ and Williame and thair foirsaidis thairof, wnder the panes forsaid.

The said daye, the haill towne, &c., acceptit, receavit, and admittit Mr. Piter Blakburne to be minister of this burght, and to use and exerce the functioun and office within the samen, and obleist thame to assist the ministerie, and be subiect to the disciplene and correctioune of the kirk, as ulsua ratifeit, affermit, and apprevit the artikillis subscryuit be thame obefoir, anent goddis trew religioun, ordour, and disciplene of the kirk, maid, gevin, and presentit be Mr. Johne Craig, sumtyme minister of this burght, and promeist to abyid thairat in all poyintis, sa far as God will gif him grace.

1*st October*, 1582.

The said day, the craftismen eftir following, that is to say, Androw

Will, &c., being oppinlie inquyrit be calling of the suit roll be thair names in speciall to gif thair wote in chesing and electing of the provest, baillies, and officiaris of this burght, according to the commoun ordour and consuetud of this burght obseruit in tymes bypast, quhilkis ansurit euerie ane particularlie be thame selffis personalie present, that thai wald gif na wote nor electioun of the saidis juges and officiaris, quhill thai be restorit to thair libertie and admittit to the societie of utheris fremen of this burght, and the act gif ony be maid thairanent annullit, and thairfor refusit to nominat ony persone to exerce the said office, and tuik act and instrument thairupon; and siclyk, Robert Mengzes, baillie, in name of the toun tuik act and instrument thairupon, and protestit that thai be nocht hard to haif vote in tym cuming becaus of thair present refuse withtout just occasioun. 1st October, 1582.

26th November, 1582.

The said day, the haill burgessis of gild and merchendis of this burght that sendis geir to the sie, or sall happin to send heirefter, electit and nominat Alex^r^. Forbes, collector to the ingaddering and collecting of the soume of ellevin scoir ten markis, to mak Henrye Nesbit expenssis commissionar to pas in France, thair to labour for the doungetting of the new raisit customes and impostis in France.

5th December, 1582.

The said day, the haill counsell being warnit to this day, ratifeit and apprevit the contract maid betuix the connsell and Jon Kay, Lorymer, anent the mending of the townis thrie knokis, and bying fra him of the new knok, for payment to the said Jon of twa hundretht merkis, conforme to the said contract, and consentit to the lifting and resing of the said sowme of the haill burgessis of gild and craftismen of the said burght, and to be taxt, everie ane according to thair powar and pissens: and nominat Alex^r^ Howesoun, Dauid Endiaucht, Jon Burnet, Dauid Andersoun, Alex^r^ Forbes, and Alex^r^ Mollysoun, taxtaris thairof, quha war sworn for leill taxting of the samen.

17th December, 1582.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsale, modifeit the amendis of Thomas Kellye, baxster, quha was convict obefoir for the strubling

17th Dec. 1582.

and striking of Annabell Kelly, the spous of Androw Mar, Lorimer, as folowis, to wit, ordanit the said Thomas to cum upon Soundaye nixt, the xxiii. day of this instant, within the paroche kirk of this burght, and thair eftir the sermone in presens of the haill congregatioun ask, first God, nixt the magistratis and pairtie offendit, forgifnes, humeling himself upone his kneis, and confessing his offence publictlie, and to pay fourtie s. to the deanes of gild, to be distributit as the counsall sall think expedient, promesand neuir to do nor commit the lyik in tyme cuming, wnder the pane of tuentie pundis.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consale, electit, nominat, and chusit Robert Mengzes, baillie, maister of thair hospitallis, to .owirsie, awyit, and attend for the yeir to cum, that guid ordour be obseruit be the personis placit in the saidis hospitallis, according to the fundationis and institutionis thairof, and that the yeirlie rentis of the same and casualiteis be decentlie and ordourlie imployit, according to the mening and mynd of the fundationis, quha acceptit the said office upone him.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, modifeit the amendis of Williame Ronaldsone, walkar, quha was convict obefoir for the sklandering and mispersoning of Dauid Castell, wobster, to compeir on Freday nixt, the xxi. day of this instant, within the tolbuytht of the said burght, and thair in face of court and oppin audience, sitting upoun his kneis, ask the provest, bailleis, and pairtie offendit, forgifnes, confessing his falt and offence, reuoking the wordis spokin be him as falss and untrew, promesand nevir to do the lyik in tyme cuming, wnder the pane of banischement of the towne.

3rd January, 1582.

The said day, the consale for the maist pairt within the counsel-hous being present and convenit, ordanit the gild wyne of all sic personis that sal happin to be maid frie burges of gild of this burgh in tyme cuming to be conuertit in siluer, and na drinking of gild wyne fra this to be, bot the sowme of four poundis to be taikin of ilk persone maid burges of gild, mair or less, as the deanes of gild happinis to compone and aggrie

for, according to the facultie and pissance of the persone maid frie burges of gild be the sicht and discretioun of the deanes of gild, to be convertit and applyit to the commoun weill of this burght, mending, reforming, and repairing of the commoun decayit warkis thairof, quhairof the deanes of gild sall be haldin to gif compt yeirlie, and this act to induir during the consales will. 3rd January, 1582.

25th April, 1583.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun exhibit in wreit to the counsell be Johnne Phinevin, teicher of the younge childrene, of ane place to be ane schoill to the saidis barnis, or to haif sum yeirlie support to pay the maill of the said schoill, as his said supplicatioun proportis, the provest, baillies, and counsell, ordanis the dene of gild to pay and delyver to the said Jon the yeirlie feu maill of ane land pertening to the airis of umquhill Thomas Branche, lyand in the Schoill hill, in the northt waist nuik of the kirk yaird, extending to tuentie sax s. viii. d., to help to pay the maill of ane schoill, quhair the samen may be easalie hed, and that yeirlie induring the consellis will.

10th May, 1583.

The said day, the haill bretherene of gild being lauchtfullie warnit to this daye and comperand for the maist pairt, understanding the gryt skaytht and hurt that thai sustene be gryte sowmes of monee gevin be burgessis of uther burghis, and extranearis, to induellaris and burgessis of this burght, to by wairis and salmound within this burght and jurisdictioun thairof, aganis the commoun weltht thairof, and mercheandis within the same, in ane voce but contradictioun for avoiding of the samen, was sworne in jugement, that nane of thame sall ressaue ane purss of silver or sowmes of money fra ony burges of ane uther burght or towne to the effect forsaid, and gif thai or onye of thame dois in the contrair, and contravenis this ordinance, thai ar content to suffer the tentement of ane assyse of thair nychtbouris, and gif thay be convict thairof, to tyne thair fredome of this burght for evir.

13th May, 1583.

The said day, it was statut and ordanit be the provest, ballies, and counsale, that na laborar nor warkmann or woman at the schoir suld tak

13th May, 1583.

or ressaue mair nor eftir followis, for beiring to and fra the said schoir to the partis of this towne, of salt, coill, lyme, salmond, or beir; that is to say, for beiring of the boll of salt, lyme, and coill to the Castelgett, iiii. d., and for beiring thairof to the Braid Gutter, vi. d., and fra the Schoir to the Gallowgett, viii. d., and to the Grene, viii. d.; for bering of the barrel of salmond fra the Castelgett to the Schoir, vi. d., and fra the Braid Gutter to the Schoire, viii. d.; and for beiring of the barrell of beir to the Castelgett fra the Schoir, iiii. d.; to the Braid Gutter, vi. d.; and to the Gallowgett and Grene, viii. d.

9th August, 1583.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and haill merchandis of the burght of Abirdene, &c., grantit, consentit, and obleist thame selffiis, that thai nor nane of thame sall send, nor caus be transportit furtht of this burght and port thairof to Flanderis, ony scheip skynnis for the space of sax monethis, immediatlie following the last day of August instant; and forder, according to the will and ordinance of the burrowis of Edinburght, Pertht, Dundie, and wtheris burrowis of this realme, gevand unto ws thair act and ordinance maid thairanent, in wreitt, to be obseruit in sic soirt, that ane burght be nocht bound and astrictit, and ane wther to be frie, bot all to cum wnder ane ordour and ordinance, becaus the same is thocht expedient to be done for the weill of the haill burrowis of the realme.

10*th July*, 1584.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsaill of this burght being convenit in the counsailhous for the maist part, ressoning and considdering, that sen the deceis of umquhill Sir W$^{m.}$ Walker, quha haid the seruice, cuir, and keiping of thair paroche [kirk] vnder Maister Johnne Kennedy, sacristair of the same, na seruand is provydit thairto as yit, and that it is neidful that ane honest, descreit, and trew servand be prouydit thairto, without preiudice of the said Mr. Jonis richt and tytill induring his lyftyme, and wnderstanding that the seruice and labour of the said office is gryt and continewall, in rewling and ordouring of the knokis of the said kirk, ringing of the bellis, keiping of the kirk, oppining and loking of the durris thairof in tymes conuenient, keiping of the kirk yard dykis and girss thairof fra bestiall, ministring of water, bassing, and towall for

baptisme, lichting of kandellis in the winter sesoun, making of the gravis in the kirk and kirkyard, and also to awaytt upoun the leid and kirk windois, that nain be away throw his negligence without aduerteisment to be maid be him, and awayting upoun the kirkwark quhan the same sall happin to be in doing, and wther dew seruice belangand the said office, swa that the said cuir requiris the labouris of ane diligent servand haillie addickit thairto, awayting continewallye thairupoun, and this honest servand can nocht guidlie be sustinit with the sober stipend and casualiteis quhilk the said umquhill Sir Wm. Walkar, last possessor thairof, haid for the same obefor, continit in act maid thairupoun, upone the fyft day of October, the yeir of God ane thousand vc saxtie and fyve yeiris, thairfor the saidis provest, bailyies, and counsall augmentit the stipend and fee of the said sacristar, propirtie, and accident, and yeirlie to be payit to him in maner following; that is to say, ten markis to be payit to him be the thesaurar of this burght at Witsonday and Martimes, be twa equall portionis, togidder with twa markis of feu maill of the luge of the kirk yaird, sett in feu to umquhill Thomas Branche to help to pay his hous, and to haue accidentis of ilk mariage of honest riche personis, twa s., and of sober folkis, auchtein penneis; and of baptisme, for ilk honest riche manis bairnis, twa s., and of sober folkis, tuelff penneis; item, for making of grauis in kirk and kirk yard, for euerye honest persone, twa s., and for sober folkis, tuelff penneis, prouyding that the grauis of puir folkis be frelie maid; item, euerye Sondaye to haue tuelff penneis out of the kirk braid; item, to haue the unlawis of the bestiall and guidis that beis apprehendit in the kirk yard, to wit, ilk horss ilk tyme, sax s. aucht penneis; ilk scheip ilk tyme, tuelff penneis; ilk swyne ilk tyme, xiii. s. iiii. d. witht powar to poynd and hald the saidis guidis quhill the saidis unlawis be satisfeit, and peyit be authoritie of the provest, and bailyeis, and counsaill, interponit heirto, and the saidis provest, balyeis, and counsaill admyttit Johnne Smytht to the said cuir and office, upoun his guid beiring, and induring thair will, quha acceptit the same upoune the conditionis and restrictionis forsaid, and fand Robert Menzeis, eldar, souertie and catioun for him of his fidelitie and diligent seruice, quha obleist him to releiff the said Robert thairoff. 10th July, 1584.

Eodem die.

The said day, Johnne Roray, tailyeour, quha was depryvit of the fre-

10th July, 1584. manschip of his craft for the enormitie done be him, and disobediens to the ordinans of the counsall, as the actis maid thairupoun beris, the provest, bailzeis, and counsaill, for diuers respectis and considerationis, and specialie becaus of the said Joannis penitence, wnderstand and schawin to the counsaill, and forgiuenes cravit be him, thairfoir, and upoun his publict promeis oppinlie maid in jugement, that he suld nevir resist the ordinans of the provest, bailzeis, and counsaill of this toun, and that he suld neuir scot, lot, nor assist witht the remanent craftismen of this burght in furthtsetting and persewing of the action presentlie depending befoir the lordis of counsaill, anent the priuelege cravit and socht be the saidis craftismen, to haue the use of bying and selling of merchandreis as frie burgessis thairof, bot that he sall leif quietlie upoun his awin craft and vocatioun as he did obefoir, upon the quhilk he maid faytht in jugement, remittit and dischargit the said Jon of the said offens, for the quhilk he wes depryvit of his fremanschip obefoir, and admittit and ressauit him of new again as freman of his craft, and geff him the yatht of fidelitie thairupoun; upoun the quhilk, Gilbert Menzeis, provest, in name of the bailzeis and counsaill for thair part, and the said Jon Roray for his part, tuik act of court and instrument.

28*th September*, 1584.

The said day, the provest, bailzeis, and counsaill, consultand and aduysand anent guid ordour to be obseruit in this toun for evading and eschewing of the contaguis pest ringand in dyuerss partis, townis, and places, of the southt contrie, sa far as may be done be men as instrumentall meanis witht the guid plesour of God, deuysit and ordanit ane port of tree to be biggit and sett upoun the Brig of Dee: and ane wther port of tree in the Schipraw, betuixt the land of Jon Leslie and Alex^r^ Howesoun; and ordanit that all portis of this toun sal be closit, lokit, and haldin fast dayle, except thre portis, quhilk sall be haldin fast upoun the nycht fra sevin houris at evin, quhill sax in the morning: that is to say, the Overkirkget port, the Schipraw port, and the Justice port; at the quhilk patent portis thair sall be ane daylie wache of twa burgessmen or craftismen personalie in proper personis, fra the sax in the morning, quhill sevin at evin at euerie ane of thame; and that the Grayfreris bell sall be rung be the space of half ane hour befoir the closing of the saidis thrie portis, that euerie induellar may do thair erandis in dew

tym, and at sevin houris of the knok the portis to be closit, and in lykwayis that thair be ane wache at the Brig of Dee, of twa honest burgess men or craftismen, that nane be sufferit to haue entrie thairat, without ane sufficient attentik testimoniall presentit to the provest and bailyeis before, and admittit be thame and licence grantit thairto; and that na testimoniall be ressauit nor admittit, giffin at ony suspect place, and ane honest burgessman or craftisman sall wache daylie at the hevin mouthe, that na schip, crair, nor bot, be sufferit to enter thairat without speciall licens of the provest and bailzeis; and that nain be transportit our the watter be the ferriboit, schip boit, fisch boit, nor cobill, but speciall attentik testimoniall presentit and admittit as said is, and that the ferriboit sall ly and remane on this syd of the watter, and the ferrear to luge in the blokhous: and that the said ferriboit sall mak na passage fra four efter nowne, quhill aucht houris in the morning, and that thair sall be ane wache to attend that na persoun on fut nor hors sall cum our ony furd betuixt the Brig and the hevin mowthe: and that na ostler be sufferit to brew ony aill betuixt this and the Brig of Dee, nor about the same: and that na induellar of this burght ressaue ony extranear persoun in lugeing, nather of small degree nor gryt degre, without speciall licens, wnder the pane of fourtie pundis, and closing wp of thair houssis for thre dayis immediatlie thairefter: and that na persoun tak upoun hand to fraucht ony boit to cum fra the southt to this toun, witht lyme, collis, sklaittis, nor na uther wayeris: nor yit that ony persoun sall pas to the southt, nor to any commond fair nor mercat, withtout licens as said is obtinit thairto, wnder the pane of tuentie pundis: and that na apillis, peris, plumbis, nor uther fruitis that cumis from the southt be bocht nor ressauit in this burght, and that na conventiounn of peopill nor lykis be sufferit to convene at the deceis of ony deid persoun, wnder the pane of tuentie pundis: and that all the puir folkis that ar beggaris borne and bred in this toune, or hes bein lang induellaris thairintill, sal bear and wear oppinlie on thair breistis the townis armis, quhairby thay may be knawin, and the haill remanent beggaris, young and auld, to be removit of this toun and fredome thairof, withtin thre dayis, wnder the pane of baneisment, and birning of thame on the cheikis witht ane het irne: and that all bak dykis and bakyeittis be closit wp that na passage be thairby, and euerie heritour, occupiar, and possessor, sal be ansuirabill for his bak dyk and bak yet, that na skayth nor

28th Sept., 1584.

28th Sept., 1584. inconueniens enseu thairby, wnder all hiest pane and charge that efter may follow, and that na extranear fut chopmane copair resort to this toun fra this furtht, nor sal be ressauit in this burght.

14*th October*, 1584.

The quhilk day, it was devysit, statute, and ordanit be the provest, bailleis, and counsall of this guid toune, and ratifeit and apprevit be the haill towne, alsweill craftismen as burgessis, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, &c., that all maisteris of houshaldis, alsweill craftismen as burgessis, sall repair to the paroche kirk, keep and obserue the sermones and prechingis on the oulk dayis, to wit, Tuysday and Thurisday, for heiring of the wourd of God and Christis euangell trewlie prechit, in all tyme heirefttir, under the penaltie of twa s. to be uptakin of ilk burgess, and xii. d. of ilk craftismen absent fra the sermone the saidis dayis, without lauchtfull excuiss of infirmities, seiknes, or absence of the towne be the [ ] to be applyit to [ ] and heirunto the haill craftismen alsweill burgessis voluntarlie obleist thame selffis being particularlie inquirit be Gilbert Mengzes, provest, and consentit thairto, prowyding that this act be extendit onlie to maisteris of houshaldis.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent the generall complaint gevin in be the commounis of this burght upoun certane nychtbouris thairof, regrataris and spillaris of the markat of meill and malt, awayting upone the leiddis of victuall cuming out of the contray to this burght, harasing the samen, or evir the malt or meill present the markat, in gryt hurt and preiudice of the commoun weill thairof, quhilk is the occasioun of gryt dearth, and the caus that the pure commounis of this burght ar misservit; for remeid thairof, the provest, baillies, and counsale, devysit and ordanit, and for ane act statut and confermit, witht consent of the towne, being convenit for the maist pairt, that gif ony persoun, man or woman, duelland within this burght in ony tyme cuming, byis or housis victuall cumand to this burght and markat thairof, to be sauld befoir the same present the markat, that the byar and howsar sall pay the unlaw of xx s. on forgevin, and that it sall be lesum to na persone to by victuall cumand to this burght bot in the markat, and samekill onlie as may serve thair hous and familie fra market day to marcat daye.

Eodem die. 14th Oct., 1584.

The quhilk daye, the provest, baillies, and counsale, upoun the greuous complaint gevin in wpoun the wobsteris for the gryt and exhorbitant pryces taken be thame for the weyving of all soirtis of claytht, extorsenand thairby the inhabitantis of this burght, and taking for thair labouris at thair awin plessour and appetit, expres aganis guid ordour, law, and conscience, as the said complaint mair fullelie proportit, quhilk being considerit be thame, and haveing consideratioun quhow that the eln of ilk sort of claytht mycht be wrocht be the saidis wobsteris haveing ressonabill proffeit and ganes of the pryces following; that is to say, the eln of best russet, xvi. d., secundar, xii. d.; the eln of hosin grayis, viii. d.; the eln of tartane of all sortis, vi. d.; the eln of carsayis, iii. d.; the eln of quhyt plaiding, iii. d.; the eln of hewit plaidis of all soirtis, xvi. d.; the eln of lynning, vi. d.; the eln of hardene, iii. d.; the eln of braid dornik, ii. s.; the eln of narrow dornik, xii. d.; and the wobster refusand to obserue this statute, and being convick for contraveining thairof in ony poynt, to be depryvit of his fredome; as alswa, it was statute and ordanit, that na wobster within this burght mak onye claytht, lynning, or wolne in ony tyme cuming, under the pane of depriuatioun of him of his fredome, being callit and convict thairfoir.

29th March, 1585.

The said day, the provest, bailyeis, and counsaill of this burght, haueing consideratioun that the pavment of the fluir of thair paroche kirk is offt tymes opinit and brokin throw the buriall, to the gryt expenssis of the reformatioun thairof, and als of the desyr and supplicatioun of dyuers personis quha desyris the bodeis of thair departit freindis to be bureit in the said kirk, swa that throw the multitude of deid bodeis bureit thairin few places is to be fund thairintill but grein grauis, albeit the kirkyard be ane honorabill place of buriall gif thai wald content thairwitht, thairfoir the saidis provest, balyeis, and counsaill all in ane voce, thocht expedient and concludit that the bodeis of na persoun past tuentie yeris of aige be bureit in the said kirk, without payment of thre pundis of money or thai be bureit, and of bairnis xx. s., to be payit to the maister of the kirk wark, for the quhilk he salbe obleist and astrictit to ansuir yeirlie in his compt, and that but preiudice of sik fundationis as ar preuilegit personis to the said maister of kirk wark, to causs ane officiar als

29th March, 1585. oft as neid beiss poind and distrenze for the said dewtie, ordainand the officiaris to be radye, and ansuir and obey the said maister of kirk wark, anent poinding for contenting of this present act.

21*st May*, 1585.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsale, being crediblie informit that the contagious pest is presentlie keindlit in Edinburght, the principall towne of this realme, and continewallie incressis and spreddis in dyuerss pairtis, townes, and villagis, and places of the south contraye of this realme, thairfor, eftir matur deliberatioun and guid aduysement, thocht guid and godlie to obserue moir diligentlie the statutis and ordinances maid be thame obefoir for guid ordour thairanent, ordanis the samin to be deuulgat and proclamet of new, of the quhilk the tennour followis, [as at p. 52.] and for obseruing heirof and punischment of the contravenaris of thir statutis and ordinances aboune rehersit, thay haif ordanit the geibattis to be maid and affixit, ane at the marcat croce of this burght, ane uther at the Brig of Dee, and the third at the hevin moutht, that in caice onye infeckit persoun aryue or repair be sie or land to this burght or fredome thairof, or in caice ony induellar of this burght ressaue, hous, or harbrie, or giff meat or drink to the infekit persoun or personis, the man to be hangit, and the woman to be drownit, and that na maner of persoun within this burght pas fra this day furtht to ony commoun mercatis or fairis, nor yit pas ony wayes southt, wnder the pane of deid; and becaus the burding will be grit, and the charge intollerabill to the four bailleis be thame selffis without help and assistance of the consale to attend for the observatioun of the saidis statutis, and punischeing of the contravenaris and transgressouris thairof, it is thairfor ordanit that thair sal be twa honest personis to assist and concur witht ilk balzie in ilk quarter, to haif the lyik pouer and authoritie during this eminent danger as the principall bailleis hes; and als becaus gryt danger appeiris to enschew be the wattir, hevin, and brig of this burght, in caice the same be negligentlie obseruit, thay haiff appoyntit Alex^{r} Chalmer and Mr. Thomas Leslye to be wattir bailzeis, for the obseruing of the hevin and fereis; John Forbes and Patrick Huntar, bailleis, for obseruing of the Brig of Die and ferreis circumjacent, quha exceptit the saidis offices upon thame, and war sworne for faythtfull attending thairupoun during the tyme of this present danger.

27th May, 1585.

27th May, 1585.

The quhilk day, Margret Nune, spous of William Norie, and Marzeoun Younge, relict of umquhill William Duncane, tailzeouris, war convictit for braking of the statutis and ordinances maid for guid ordour anent the pest, and for contravening thairof, in housing, harburing, and giffing of meit and drink to extranearis, but licence of ane baillie, or command haid thairto, quhairfoir thay war in amerciament, &c., and becaus according to the saidis actis, deith was thair just punischement, the prouest, balzeis, and counsall, ordanit thame to be punisit to the deith or baneischement, according to thair arbitriment, and at the ernist suit and instant supplicatioun of the rycht honorabill William Kar of Cesfuide, knycht, and Robert Maxwell of Dunwidye, knycht, the prouest and bailzeis grantit to the said tua personis adiugit to die, thair lyves, and ordanit thame to be banischit of this burght, during the consallis will.

4th October, 1585.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit this day within the tolbuytht of this burght, considdering quhow hurtfull and preiudiciall the lait introducit custowme amangis the inhabitantis of this burght, the day of the electioun of the magestrattis of the said burght, in nominating, chesing, and electing of dyuerss personis to the office of baillerie, that hes borne and usit the said office dyuerss yeiris contigue togidder, without ony ceissing, aganis all ressoun and guid ordour, hes bene to the commoun weill of this burght thir yeiris bypast: for remeid thairof concludit, decernit, and ordanit, that the baillies chosin this day for the yeir to cum, and sic as sall heireftir happin to be nominat, chosin, and electit to the office of baillerie within this burght, sall na wayis be nominat, lytit, electit, nor chosin, for twa yeiris contigue togidder, bot that wtheris qualifeit and meit for the said office, sall be burdenit thairwitht, and electit to the same for the space of ane yeir, swa that euerie man of hous, estimatioun, and honestie, sall be burdenit witht the same his yeir about, and heirunto the haill toune in ane voce but contradictioun, grantit and consentit, and obleist thame thairto, to be obseruit inviolablie in all tym cuming.

8th October, 1585.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun exhibit for the pairt of Mr. Wil-

8th October, 1585.

liame Leisk, desyring to be admittit minister substitut under Mr. Piter Blakburne, minister of this burght, to support him in his cure and office becaus of his gryt cure and exercitioun, and desyring of the towne ane ressonabill stipend for the samen, for the support of his lyff and leving as thay thocht ressonabill, to the quhilk supplicatioun the haill communite grantit and consentit, and ordanit to gif him yeirlie for his stipend ane hundreytht merkis, to be payit to him be the haill communite of thair awin propir geir, to be stentit and taxtat upon the haill nychtbouris and inhabitantis of this burght, and wald na wayis consent that the said sowme suld be taknit out of the few maillis and deweteis of the freir landis.

10*th January*, 1585.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun exhibit to the prouest, bailyeis, and counsall be Mr. Jon Kennedy, thair court clark, desyring to be satisfeit and payit of the sowme of thre scoir libs, wsuall money of Scotland, debursit be him upone the building of the justice port as maister of wark thairof, electit be the counsaill thairto, conforme to his comptis producit thairupone, the saidis prouest, bailyeis, and counsall, assignis to the said Mr. Jon the compositionis of burgessis of gild and fremane that sall happin to be maid efter this day, togidder with the haill wnlawis, casualiteis, and accidentis of foirstallaris, regrataris, and contraueneris and brakaris of the statutis and ordinances of this burght, &c.

13*th April*, 1586.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsale statute and ordanit, that in tyme cuming the haill nowmer of personis that ar of the counsale admittit, sall convene oulklie frathinfurtht within the counsalhous of the tolbuith ilk Wedinsday at ten houris befoir noune, to consult upoun sic thingis as concernis the commoun afferis of this burgh, and quha comperis nocht eftir the knelling of the bell of the tolbuith, for ilk absence to pay sex s. viii. d., thai being at hame within this burgh or fredome thairof, or at thair fischingis of Die or Done, and gif thai haue ony neidful bissyness ado, eider in the consistorie or uder place, thai sall obtene obefoir licence thairto of ane bailye, witht a ticket of the licence subscriuit be the clerk.

29*th April*, 1586.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun and complent of Mr. Thomas

Cargill, maister of the graymer schule, upon Johnn Cuming, noter, quha haldis ane scule, teiching barnis, abstracting thame from the principall scule without his licence and tollerance, and also without consent and admissioun of the prowest, bailleis, and counsall aganis all gude ordour, the saidis prowest, bailleis, and counsall dischargit the said Johnn Cuming of halding of the said schule quhill thay be forder aduysit. 29th April, 1586.

7th October, 1586.

The said day, the haill toun grantit and consentit that the bow brig be biggit and erectit with ane bow of estlair, and consentit voluntarlye to contribut thairto according to thair substance, and nominat Alexander Rutherfurd and Dauid Endiaucht, maisters of wark thairto.

27th April, 1587.

The quhilk day, the haill toun being lauchtfullie warnit to this day be the hand bell, &c., it was exponit to thame be Gilbert Mengzes, prouest, that the prouest, bailleis, and counsaill of Edinburght haid wretin to the prouest, bailleis, and counsaill of this burght, that the Kyngis Maiestie haid desyrit of the toun of Edinburght for thame selfis, and in name of the remanent burrowis, twa thousand pundis Scottis monee, to be aduancit be the saidis burrowis for the making of the charges and expenssis of his graces embassadour, baytht afeld and hame, appoyntit to pas with expeditioun to Denmark, in sic effairis quilk ar baytht honorabill to his grace and sall be witht lynth profitabill to the estait of merchandis, and siclyk to aduance ane thousandis pundis upone the custumes, upoun freindschip gryttar to the estait of burrowis at his grace perfyt aige now at hand, desyring this burght to send thair commissionar fullely instructit agane the xxviii. of this instant at the leist, this burght ansuir in ureit gif thai thocht this guid to be grantit to his hienes, as in the said bill of the dait at Edinburght the xxii. of this instant, opinly red in jugement at mair lynth is continit, the provest, bailleis, counsaill, and communitie, being convenit for the maist pairt, thocht the desyr of the said lettre ressonabill, and grantit and consentit thairto, and wer contentit to be stentit and impost for thair pairt of the said soume, quhane thai suld be burdint and chargit thairwitht.

20th July, 1587.

20th July, 1587.

The said day, the bailleis and counsaill present for the tym, haueing consideratioun of the misordour and tumult of the puir folkis sittand at the kirk dur beggand almous, plukand and pulland honest menis gownis, cloikis, and abulzement, throw the qukilk thair is gryt confussioun amangis thame, thairfor it is statut and ordanit, that nane of the saidis beggaris be sufferit in tym cuming to sitt or remane ony wyss asking almous within the kirk nor kirk yard, bot to sitt without the stylis, and the extranear beggaris to remove thame seffis furtht of the toun and fredome thairof, conforme to the auld statutis and ordinance thairupoun obefoir, wnder the panis thairin continit, and this ordinans to remane, but ony violatioun in tyme cuming.

14th August, 1587.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsaill, upoun the humble supplicatioun to thame, presentit be Johnn Andersoun, desyring to be admittit master of the sang scuill of this burght, now vaikand be deceiss of Johnn Blak, last maister thairof, quhilk supplicatioun thai thocht ressonabill, and admittit the said Johnne to the said cuir and office induring thair will, and ordanit him to haue for his stipend yeirly, the soume of tuentie pundis monee of this realme to be payit to him yeirly, at twa termes in the yeir, &c.

22nd January, 1587.

The said daye, the haill toun being convenit, and being chargit be vertew of lettres gevin be delyuerance of the lordis, at the instance of Gilbert Mengzes of Petfoddellis, prouest of the said burght, to cheiss taxtaris and stentaris to stent the sowme of twa hundrethe markis on the haill burgessis of gild for ane taxatioun, grantit and consentit be the haill commissionaris of burrowis in ane conuention haldin at Edinburght, the fytein day of Julii, the yeir of God, ane thousand v^{c} four scoir and four yeiris, for rigging furtht ane weir schip and bark to perseu Inglis pirattis that pilleit Scottis merchandis geir, within ten dayis, wnder the panis of horning, as in the lettres direct thairupoune, the fyft day of Januar instant, proportis, quhilk soume the said Gilbert as provest is compellit to pay, for obtempering to the quhilkis lettres and charges, and eschew-

ing of horning thairin continit, compeirit the committee of Abirdene, 22nd January 1587.
witht Mr. Johnne Cheyne thair preloquitour, and wnder protestatioun for all thair lauchtfull defenssis aganis the saidis chargis, and that they na wayis be preiugit thairanent be the obedience eftir following, electit, nominat, and chesit, James Mengzes, Dauid Fergussoun, James Settoun, Alex^r Jaffary, Dauid Cargill, quha war sworne in iugement to stent the same on the merchandis, burgessis, and brether of gild, and to mak ane extent roll thairupone, upone the quhilk the said baillie tuik instrument, and the said Mr. Johnne protestit that the said soume be na wayis delyuerit to the parte quhill the same be consignit, to the effect the suspensioun may be haid.

7th June, 1588.

The said day, the ballies and counsall of this burght beand convenit for the maist pairt at the poirt of the Nether Kirk gait, anent the complent maid upoun Duncan Donaldsoun, youngar, quha presentlie is biggand his foirland, merchand contigue to the said poirt, for the alledgit wrang done to the toune be the said Duncan, in braking doun and altering of the stane wall of the said poirt at his awin hand, and making his windois and eismentis thairin, the said Duncan being personalie present, warnit to ansuir thairfoir, quha denyit ony wrang done be him, and gif ony wrang be done be him fund be the counsall, he wald reforme the same at thair will, quhilkis all in ane voice efter ryip aduyisment, fand and decernit that the said Duncan haid done wrang in altering and braking doune of the said poirt at the wast gawill of his stair, merchand contigue thairto, and maid the same waiker and thynnar nor it wes obefoir to serue his awin commoditie and eisment, and biggit ane windo in the said wall at his awin hand, and convictit him thairfoir, and ordanis him to mend and reforme the batteling of the said poirt, and lay the soill thairof witht pavment stanis, and that the said Duncannis stair foirsaid sall in all tyme cuming be patent to serue the toun as it sall happin tham to haue ado in watching, garding, and defence making, as occasioun sall serue, and the said land nevir to be occupeit nor sett in tym cuming, bot be ane frie burgess actuall induellar of this burght, fauorar and furthtsettar of the libertie thairof, and ordanis this ordinance to be insert in the court buikis of this burghe *ad perpetuam rei memoriam*, and to stand as ane perpetuall ordinance in all tyme cuming.

4th October, 1588.

4th October, 1588.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, considdering the cauldnes enterit in practeiss within this burght, of a gryt numer of the inhabitantis thairof, professing Chryst as he is now offerit be the preching of the evangell, throch wilfull remaining from thair paroche kirk in tyme of preching and prayeris, and from the hering of the word of God sinceirlie prechit, alss weill on the Sabbotht day as on the oulk day, and be gaming and playing, passing to tavernis and ailhowssis, using the tred of merchandice and handie labour in tym of sermoun on the oulk day, contrar to the custume of reformit kirkis and weill governit commoun weillis of this realme, procuring thairby the uraith and displesour of God, for remeid thairof, hes statut and ordanit that all maisteris of houshaldis within this burgh, and thair wyffiis, as weill craftismen as burgessis and utheris inhabitantis thairof, sall repair in tyme cuming to thair paroche kirk, keip and obserue the sermonis and prechingis afoir and efter noyn on the Sabboth day, and on the tua ordinar oulk dayis, to vit, Tyisday and Thurisday afoir noyn, wnder the panis following; that is to say, of everie howshalder and his wyff, burges of gild, for thair remaning fra the sermonis on the Sabboth day, xiii. s. iiii. d., and for thair remaning ilk oulk day, tua s.; and for everie craftismen, houshalder, and utheris inhabitantis, for thair remaning fra the sermonis on the Sabboth day, sax s. viii. d., and everie oulk day, xii. d; and in caice ony merchand or burges of gild be fund within his merchand buith efter the ringing of the third bell to the sermoun on the oulk day, to pay sax s. viii. d.

20th November, 1588.

The quhilk day, it was aduysitlie considderit, that the power, place, dignitie, and authoritie of the counsall of this burgh (as of all uther burrowis of this realme) is and cheiflie dois consist past memorie of man unto this day, in treating, aduysing, and consulting upoun all materis concerning the commoun weill of this burght, making and setting down of lawis, statutis, and ordinances, be the quhilkis the same is estableschit and governit, and that quhen any mater of weycht, grauitie, or importance, concerning the commoun weill was to be handlit, aduysit, or consultit upoun, quhilk crauit the haill communattie to be gadderit and convenit, and thair particular voitis to be haid thairin befoir that mater suld tak effect and promulgat to thame, the consell first aduysit thairon,

and fand it meit and expedient that the haill town suld be warnit and the same exponit to thame, and than to giff thair voitis thairuntill, and that this power and authoritie of the counsall, throch iniquitie of the tyme by past, hes bene callit in dowt, and the town convocat without aduyse of the counsall finding it meit befoir thair convening that thay suld be assemblit thairfor, and to the effect that the authoritie of the counsall may continew in the awin integritie according to the ancient and lowabill custume obseruit in tyme bygane, without alteratioun or diminutioun, and for avoiding of all confusioun and misordour in convening of the communaltie heirefter, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall being fullele for the maist pairt convenit, to wit, Maister Thomas Mengzes, &c., statut and ordanit, and for ane perpetuall ordinance concludit and deuysit, that thair sall be na varning of the town, nather be the hand bell nor uther vayis, nor gaddering, convening, or convocating of the communaltie of this burght in any tyme cumming to the tolbuith nor na uther publict place, for giffing of thair voitis in any mater of weycht and importance concerning the commoun weill of this burght, without ane ordinance of the counsall or the maist pairt thairof passing befoir, fynding it expedient and meit that thay be warnit, and conteining the caus of thair warning, and that it sall na vayis be lesum to the prouest, bailleis, deanis of gild, nor yit consalour, to gif any command to warne and convocat the town to the tolbuith or any uther publict place to the effect forsaid, without ane ordinance of the counsall sett doun thairanent obefoir, and that all warning and convening of the toun to the effect befoir expremit, gif any sall be mad in contrar heirof, is and sall be null, of na awaill, force, nor effect. 20th Nov., 1588.

13*th February*, 1588.

The said day, Robert Gray, Thomas Fergussoun, for himselff and Gilbert Dwne his guidsoun, Williame Donaldsoune, Androw Kelly, Androw Mylne, comperit personalie in presens of the haill toun, and referrit the skaythe done to thame be the young Laird of Balquhyne and his adherentis, to the consall, and thai to be rekumpansit of thair skaythe according to the discretioun of the counsall, and the toun being warnit and convenit for the maist pairt, all war content that all ealestis, deabettis, and questionis betuix thame and the laird of Balquhyne, be reconsealit and concordit in amitie amangis thame, prouyding heiroun

13th Feb., 1588

the toun be nocht preiugit in thair tytil, or rycht of thair landis of Ardlar, the decreit of removing and violent profeittis obteinit aganis the said laird of Balquhynne and tennentis thairof, bot that the same be saiff to the toun, and the commoun weill be the said concord be na wayis preiugit.

5th May, 1589.

The said daye, the prouest, bailleis, and personis of the counsall undervretin, that is to say, &c., deuysit and ordanit James Settoun and Dauid Andersoune deanis of gild, to sell and dispone the pulder and irne wark furnesit be this toun to his hienes, to the townis best aduantage and profit, and to mak ready syluer theirof, to the effect that the merchandis fra quhome the pulder and irne was bocht, and the craftismen that wrocht the same, may be satifeit and payit, and the toun theirof releivit.

18*th June*, 1589.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and counsall, devysit and ordanit the commoun loch of this burght lyand on the wast syid of the Gallowgaitt of this burght, the commoun Lynx also, with the Castellhill and Womanhill, the haill inces beneth the Mydchingill and the Cruikit Myre, be hanit and keipit on eiteng be horss, scheip, or uther bestiall, or the grass ony wayis eittit or schavne, and that for the serving of his hienes liegis that ar to be heir schortlie, of grass to yair horss, and na man or woman pretend or presume to put ony beast thairin to eat the grass thairof, nor yit ait nor scheir the grass, under the pane of fourtie s. of unlaw to be uptakin of the persone convict, and contravening heirof for the first fault, and price doubling thairof for the secund falt, and to that effect appointis James Kelman, [ ] visitouris, for keiping of the said loch, and for the linx, James Low and Malcolme Kar, and for the Castell hill, Alexander Mylne and Johnne Castell.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and consale, upoun the supplicatioun presentit to thame for bigging of ane pair of buttis besyd the Castell hill, for serving of his hienes and noble men that is to cum heir with his grace, according to the praiss and renoune of this burgh, for answer thairto

thocht the desyr of the supplicatioun ressonable, and assentit and agreit to gif to mak and big the saidis buttis, ten pundis money. 18th June, 1589.

6th August, 1589.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and counsale, hes devysit and ordanit Dauid Andersoune, ane of the deanis of gild and maister of the kirk wark, to pay to Sir Lowes Bannatyne of Auchnoull, knycht, and justice clark to our Souerane Lord, sevin scottis roiss nobillis of gold, price of ilk rois nobill, allevin merkis, and that for his fauour, guid will, courtasie, and dewtie, to be schawin be him to this burgh and inhabitantis thairof, in this present justice court presentlie haldin within this burgh, to the effect the haill inhabitantis thairof may be receauit and accuisit as ane bodie and persoun, according to the ancient custome obseruit in all tymes bygane, in justice airis and courtis haldin within this burgh, and siclyk, deuysit and ordanit the said Dauid, deane of gild foirsaid, to deliuer and pay in name of the haill toun, to Mr. James and Patrik Bannatynis, clarkis of the said iustice court, judiciallie in judgement, ane roiss nobill for the haill toun, in satisfactioun and compensatioun of all dewetie and entres siluer that thai may ask or craue as clarkis of the said justice court of this burght, and haill inhabitantis thairof, quhilkis aucht roiss nobillis debursit and givin out be the said Dauid, the prouest, ballies, and counsale foirsaid, ordanit to be allowit to him in his nixt comptis.

3rd September, 1589.

The said daye, the counsall vnderwrittin, thai ar to say, Mr. Thomas Mengzeis of Dorne, prouest, Alex^r^ Rutherfuird, Dauid Menzes, elder, Dauid Andersone, Alexander Hey, George Knowis, Alexander Howesone, Mr. Dauid Rutherfuird, Alexander Chalmer, Robert Mengzes, Androw Lowsone, Dauid Mengzes, youngar, James Settoun, ordanit William Mengzeis, ballie, to retein and keip the lockit buik contening the infeftmentis and chartouris of the annuellis pertening to the chaplanreis of thair paroche kirk, togidder with the buik of decreitis obtenit at the instance of the chaplanis aganis diuerss personis, occupearis of diuerss landis, deliuerit to the said William be Mr. Johne Kennedy, ay and quhill ordour be takin be the counsall anent the evidentis deliuerit be Mr. Johne Kennedy to Alexander Cullan and Dauid Andersone, on

3rd Sept., 1589. the annuellis, and that the said William be ansuerable to the counsall for the saidis twa buikis.

24*th September*, 1589.

The said day, the counsall underwretten, &c., devysit and ordanit the deanis of gild to mend and repair thair Grammer Schuill, in thak, vindois, and uther necessaris, of the first and reddiest siluer that thai haue or sall happin to ingett, quhilk sall be allowit to thame in thair comptis.

26*th November*, 1589.

The said day, William Menzes producit and exhibit befoir the prouest, ballies, and counsall, the register buik of the chartouris and evidentis perteining and belanging to the cheplanis of Sanct Nicolas paroche kirk of Abirden, writtin in ane lokit buik on parchment, togidder witht the buik of the extract of decreitis furtht of the balleis buik, obteinit at the instance of the saidis cheplanis, aganis dyuerss and sindrie personis addettit to thame in annuell rentis, quhilkis buikis war deliuerit to him be wmquhill Mr. Johnne Kennedy, quhilkis twa buikis war instantly deliuerit at command of the prouest, ballies, and counsall, to Dauid Andersone maister of the kirk wark, to be keipit and usit be him at the prouest, ballies, and counsalis command, for recovering and obteining of the annuellis thairin mentionat, quhill the counsall tak ordour thairanent heireftir.

12*th December*, 1589.

Memorandum on the ordinance to be maid, anent the barnis of the Grammer Schoill of this burght, and uther schuilis within the samen, for setting of cautioun be euerie barne and scholar befor his entrie to the schuill and be receavit be the maister, that the scholar and bairnis sall sett cautioun, ane burges and ane indwellar of the said burght, for obseruing of guid ordour, obedience to the maister, and that na disordour sall be usit be him in tacking of the schule befoir the superstitius tyme of yuill, or ony uther tyme within the yeir, ilk barne under the paine of ten pundis, and repairing be thame of the brakingis, demollessing of deaskis, vindois, durris, and that the maister receave na bairne quhill he find cautioun actit in the tounis buikis as said is for ilk intrant, and receave the clerkis ticket thairupoune.

31*st March*, 1590.

31st March, 1590.

The said day, the prouest, ballies, and the persones of the consale followin, to wit, &c., electit, nominat, and chosit, and votit for the maist pairt, Johnne Collesoune, balle, to pas with the schip of this burght, appoyntit and makand reddie to pas to the pairtis of Denmark, for convoying and hame bringing of his hieness and the quene, his darrest bedfellow in this realme, to haiff the governement, and rewell, and commandement of the said schip and cumpanie thairof, and that Dauid Indeaucht sall pas witht him in the said schip to gif him his aduyse, and to oursie the viuaris and all uther necessaris, that thai be nocht on profitebly bestowit nor devastit, and that thair charges resonable be maid and giffin be the sicht and consideratioun of the prouest, ballies, and consale, of the stent and taxatioun presentlie sett and imposit upoun the inhabitantis of this burght, for furthtrigging and furnesing of the said schip, and the said Jon to have ane hundretht pundis to by his garmontht.

6*th April*, 1590.

The said day, the ballies and persones of the consale aboun wretin, statut and ordanit Maister Thomas Mengzes of Durne, prouest, havar and keipar of the pece of artelyerie callit The Falcon, pertenying to this burght, to delyeur the samen to Williame Measson, skipper of the schip of this burght callit the Nicolas, presentlie bound towardis the partis of Denmark, for convoying and hambringing of his hienes and the quene grace within this realme, to be imput on the said schip for hir defence and decoratioun, becaus thair is na ma peces of munitioun belanging to this burght, ganand for the said schip, bot sic as ar borrowit fra the awnaris of the schippis callit the James and Androw, as the act maid thairon this day proportis.

27*th April*, 1590.

The said daye, the prouest, baillies, and consall, with consent and assent of the communitie of the said burghe, convenit this day in thair heid court, deuysit, statute, and ordanit, ane wapinschaw of the haill inhabitantis of this burght, to be on Tuysdaye the feyft of May nixt to cum, according to his Maiesties act of parliament maid anent wapinschawis, making tuyse ilk yeir, and to that effect ordanit the haill inhabitantis of this burght, als weill onfre as fre, fensabill and able

27th April, 1590. persones, to assembill and convene thame selfis in thair best armour and aray, with hagbut, spear, jack, knappiskaw, and vtheris wapins bellical, in the Linx of the said burght, vpon the said fyft day of Maij, at ten houres befoir nowne, with thair magistratis, ilk persoun, inhabitant of this burght of aige and abill to bear armour, being absent the said daye, vnder the paine of [ ]

14*th October*, 1590.

The said day, the haill toun being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, baytht frie and onfrie, &c., it was exponit to thame be Alexander Cullen, prouest, that his majestie had directit charges and lettres charging the haill inhabitantis and his graces lieges within the shireffdomes of Forfar, Kincardin, Aberdene, and Banff, to pas fordwart and accumpany the Erll Merschall, his Graces commissiounar in that part, to Deir, for recoverye of the hows of Deir, presentlie taken and withhaldin be Mr. Robert Keytht and his complices, under the pane of tynsell of lyves, landis, and gudis, as in the saidis lettres red in judgement, of the dait at Halyraidhous, the xxvi. day of September last bypast, at mair lynth is contenit, desyring of thame to knaw gif thay wald obey his maiesties charge thairanent, or giff thai wald be content to furneiss out ane number for the haill inhabitantis of this burght with hagbuttis, to pas witht the said Erll to the effect foirsaid, as the borrowis of Dundie, Montroiss, Brechin, and Forfar, subiect to the said proclamatioun and charge hes done, giff the said Erll wald be thairwith content, quha being convenit as said is, for obedience to the said charge, thocht it maist meit and expedient that the number of fourtie suld be sent furtht for this burght, hagbuttaris furnessit be the haill inhabitantis, thrie, four, fywe or twa, to furneiss ane hagbuttar as salbe appoyntit be the discretioun of prouest and ballies according to the habiliteis of the furnesaris, giff the said Erll Merschaill, commissionar to his maiestie, will be thairwitht content, rather nor the haill inhabitantis of this burght to pas fordwart.

26*th November*, 1590.

Item, the grass of the linkis was rowpit and sett to Johnne Dauidsone, merchant, for the sowme of ten markis sex s. aucht d., fra the day and dait heirof, quhilk sall be his entrie heirvnto, quhile the xxv. day of Nouember, anno. j^m v^c four scoir and fourtene yeris, kepand the aird

and shcriff thairof on delvit or cassin vp, and Andro Horne becum cautioun for payment thairof to the thesaurar, and he obleist him to releve his said cautionar. 26th Nov., 1590.

Item, the chappell on the Castelhill, to wit, the body thairof and the gryt loft of the samen, allanerlie, being rowpit, was sett to Gilbert Blak, elder, cupar, for the sowme of four pundis, fra the day and dait heiroff, to the xxv. day of November, in the yeir of God, j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and fourtene yeiris, quha fand Johne Gray cautioun for payment thairof to the thesaurer, and he obleist him to releve his cautionair.

Item, the grass of the locht was rowpit thairefter, and the sowme of tuentie pundis threttene s. four d. being offerit theirfor be Willeam Wedderburne, nane exceding his said offer, the samen was sett to the said Willeam fra the day and dait heirof, quhilk sall be his entrie theirvnto, quhill the xxv. day of November nixt to cum, in the yeir of God, j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and fourtene yeiris, quha fand Andro Horne cautionar for him, for payment of the said sowme to the thesaurar, and he obleist him to releve his cautionar.

8th January, 1590.

The said day, Robert and Nicoll Jardanis, seruitoris to the richt honorabill Sir James Creichtone, of Frendracht, war accusit be the denis of gild in name of the haill toune, for cuming upon the sixt of this instant wnder clud and sylence of nicht, at aucht houris at ewin, to John Coupar, command seruand and tavernar to this burght, passing with the drum at aucht houris at ewin throw the haill streitt of this burght, trubling of the said Johnne and striking him with suerd being withtin the skabars on the hed, braking of the drum, and cutting of the same with quhingeris, in hie and manifest contempt of his majestie, and of the magistrattis of this burght, comperit the said Robert and Nicoll, and denyit the said fact and deid, in respect quharof the ballies decernit thame to purge thame of the said fact and deid be thair aythes, quha refusit to sueir, quhairfor the same was put to the decisioun of the assyss. [There is no judgment.]

18*th January*, 1590.

The prouest and ballies decernit and ordanit the four ordinar officeris,

18th January, 1590. &c., to keip the key of the tolbuith dur and consalhous dur, ilk ane of thame thair oulk about, and to be ansuirabill for the samen, and having drawin cuttis quha suld begin first, it fell to the said Dauid to begyn first, Wm. Mitchell nixt, Thomas Kellie third, and Thomas Dicksone fourt.

15*th February*, 1590.

The said day, the personis of the consall eftir following, &c., deuysit and ordanit James Settoun, collectour of the kirk annuellis, to content and pay to George Layng the sowme of saxtene merkis for ane kist, deuysit and ordanit to be bocht fra him for keiping of the townis evidentis and of the chartouris and evidentis belanging to the cheplanis of this burght, &c.

2*nd April*, 1591.

The ballies ordanit the quhyt fischeris induellaris of Futtie, to be poyndit in tyme cuming, *toties quoties*, thay past nocht to the sey with thair fische boittis for taking of fische to serwe the inhabitantis of this burght and the kyngis lieges, as oft as thay remane af the sey, wynd and wedder servand, and that according to the auld ordinances.

15*th April*, 1591.

The said day, the provest, bailleis, and consale ordanit Alex. [ ] to produce and exhibit befoir thame his auld evidentis quhilkis he hes of the land pertenying to him, lyand without Futties port, to be sene and considderit be thame quhat service and dewetie the said Alexr. aucht for the same, becaus the same was sett out of auld be this burght to umquhile Johnne Irving, burges thairoff, for keping of the gettis passand to the Castellhill and Futtie clene frome all filtht, and that upon the xxii. day of this instant, with certificatioun and he failzie thay will proceed according to justice, and ordanis intimatioun to be maid to the said Alexr. heir-upoun.

19*th May*, 1591.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun presentit to the prouest, baillies, and counsell, be Robert Abell, makand mentioun that he is ane natiwe townis man, borne and gottin within the samen, and now at the guid pleasour of God is visiet with the seiknes of leprosie, and theirby onha-

bill to wyn his liwing, or frequent honest menis societie: desyring theirfor that he micht be placed in the hospitall hous betuix the townis, quhilk supplicatioun thay thocht ressonabill, and ordanit George Straquhyn, baillie, maister of the hospitale of that said burght, to place him in the said hous, and the counsall admittit him thairto with speciall permissioun, that it sall not be lesum to the said Robert to mak ony richt, titel, tak or assedatioun, or dispositioun of the croft or yard adiacent to the said seik folkis hous, to na maner of persone, nor sett ony takis thairof lang or schort, and observing sic enjunctionis as sall be giffin to him be the maister of the said hospitale, quhilk place, with the corectionis and restrictionis forsaid, the said Robert acceptit. Robert Abell with my hand. 19th May, 1591.

8th June, 1591.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall of the said burght having aduysitlie considderit the horribill and haynous cryme of incest committit be Patrik Prat, baxster, with Christen Craik, his wmquhill wyffis sister dochter, and that the samen in itself is ane sin sa odious that it procuris the wraith and displeasour of God, to be pured on that citie and congregatioun quhair the same is committit, except condign punischement be imouit to the committeris, and that heirtofoir be ressone the said cryme of incest hes bene rair within this burght and fredome thairof committit, notourlie knawin sen the professing of Goddis trew ewangell within the samen, and religioun presentlie professit, and be the lawis estableschit within this realme thair hes not bene ane ordour of punischment for the samen sa speciallie devysit as neid requyrit, it was thocht expedient theirfor, statut and ordanit be the saidis prouest, bailleis, and consall, in the horrour of the said detestabill sine of incest, and to the terrour of utheris to committ the lyk in tyme cuming, that the said Patrick Pratt sall sit thrie seuerall mercat dayis, quhilk sall be on Setterday, bound to the croce of this burght, in the brankis lockit, haffing ane crown of paper on his heid, conteining the inscription of the cryme committit be him, fra ellewin howris afoir noyne to the hour of twelff in the noyne day, and that on thrie seuerall Sondayis he sall stand in the hairclayth, bair futtit and bair lygit, at the kirk dur of the said burght, fra the ringing of the first bell quhill the begynning of the sermone, and to sit at the pillar of repentance in semmabill maner to the ending of the sermone, and thaireftir

8th June, 1591.

to be exylit and baneist this burght, and never to resort nor cum within the samen unto the tyme he be embracit be the kirk upon signe of repentance, notourlie knawin to thame be expresing of the samen in his lyff and conversatioun, and be receawit and admittit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burght be thair testimoniall, to haue societie and duelling within the samen, efter that he hawe payit ane penaltie to the puir, according to the modificatioun of the counsall and sessioun of the said burght.

28*th July*, 1591.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consale, deuysit and ordanit Thomas Buk, deane of gild, to ansuir and obey Gilbert Guthrie, younger, messinger, the sowme of fourtie s. monee for his labouris in using and executing of his hienes lettres and chargis, purchest at the instance of the prouest and baillies aganis the commissar of Abirdene, for usurping of the prouest and bailleis jurisdictioun, and aganis sic personis of this burght as persewis thair actionis befoir the said commissar, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis, and to pay to Thomas Kelly and Thomas Dicksone, tua of the ordinar sergeandis of this burght, the sowme of xx. s. for thair labouris in passing to the fredome, to the Erle Merschellis landis adiacent thairto, and their wreisting at the townis instance the peitts cassin be the said erle and his tenentis wpon the fredome of this burght.

8*th November*, 1591.

The said daye, the haill towne being lauchtfullie warnit to this daye, &c., it was exponit to thame be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, that be verteu of a lait proclamatioun maid publictlie at the mercat croce of the said burght, the sext day of this instant, in name of George, Erle of Huntlye, Lord Gordon and Badzenoche, Lieutenant to his Majestie within the north pairtis of Scotland, be north the watter of Dee, his majesties haill lieges within the haill schyres within the saidis boundis, as also the inhabitantis of burrowis within the same schyres ar chargit of new to meitt the said lieutenent and his depute, bodin in feir of wear with tuentie dayes lone at the Bog of Gicht, upon the xxvii. of this instant, and theirfra to pas with the said lieutenant and his depute, [upon] Lauchlan Mackintoische, and dyveris wtheris brokin hieland men,

his majesties rebellis wnder the pane of escheting of all thair guidis of sic as obeyis nocht the said charge, and the prouest and sum of the counsall wes crediblie informit be sum of the saidis erlis freyndis that be sending of fourtie wagit men for this burght for keping of the said raid, the said lieutenant nor his depute wald na wayis be content, bot sa far as the said prouest was informit, wald nocht ressawe souldiouris furnessit be this burght, bot wald hawe the sowme of four hundretht merkis at the leist, to be payit to him and his depute for the samen, wpon the quhilk the said lieutenant and his depute wald furneiss wagit men to thame selff of the south cuntrie, and heirof maid intimatioun to the town, convenit as said is, desyring thame, being assemblit to this effect, to prouyd the maist easie remeid for thair awin releiff, and to eschew the perrell and danger of the said proclamatioun, declaring that quhatsumeuir forme thay suld tak thairanent, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall suld folow the samen, and that the town suld pretend na ignorance to the charge, it wes inquyrit of thame be the said prouest gif thay wald consent to be stentit for the sowme of four hundreth merkis to be giffin to the said lieutenant and his depute, to hawe ane discharge of the said raid, and ilk man be the ordour of the suit roll being votit and inquyrit, the maist pairt votit that thay wald na wayis grant to be stentit for ony contributioun, or money to be giffin to the said lieutenant nor his depute, bot that the fourtie souldiouris appoyntit obefoir to be send and riggit furth for this burgh, to haue mett the said lieutenant depute at the Bog of Gicht, upone the xxiii. day of October last bypast, reddy to hawe departit of this burgh for keping of the said daye, quha had receavit with thair capitan, in pairt of payment of thair wages, nyne scoir merkis, salbe send for this burght to keip the xxvii. of this instant, ressaving ilk ane of thame sex merkis in full contentatioun of thair vages, and war content to be stentit for the sowme of ane hundreth pundis, quhilk obefoir was ordanit to be giffin out be the collector of the taxatioun of four hundreth merkis appoyntit for the souldiouris, to the bischop wpon his supplicatioun. 8th November, 1591.

14*th April*, 1592.

The said daye, it was aduysitlie considderit quhow that the wraith and displeasour of the Almichtie God is justlie procurit to fall wpon this burgh and inhabitantis thairof, for the wickit and ongodlie use croppin in and our frequentlie usit within the same amang all sortis of pepill, in blaspheim-

14th August, 1592.

ing of Goddis holie name, and swering of horribill and execrabill aythis, theirfor for avoding theirof, folowing the example of wther reformit congregationis and burghis within this realme, becaus heirtofoir ane ordour of punischement anent the blasphemaris of Goddis name, and swereris of horribill aythis, hes nocht bene sa speciallie deuysit as neid requyrit, and for obedience to his majesties actis of parliament maid theiranent, with consent of the thrie estatis, in the parliament hauldin and begun at Edinburgh the xxiiii. day of October, the yeir of God one thousand, fyve hundreth, four scoir and ane yeiris, the haill town, &c., consentit and agreit but contradictioun, and for ane statute and law, estableschit the forme and ordour folowing to be heireftir observit within this burgh, be the haill inhabitantis theirof, for repressing of the said horribill vyce, that ilk maister of houshald within this burgh, sa oft as he sall happin to fall in the said vyce, sall pay of penaltie to be aplyit to the use of the puir, aucht d., and ilk servand four d., quhilk salbe exactit of thame be the maisteris of houshaldis, and allocat and allowit in thair fie, aucht to thame be thair maisteris, and this to be extendit als weill to men servandis quha commonlie dois blaspheme the name of God be execrabill aythis, will not abstene thairfra be exacting of the said penaltie, that thair maisteris delait thame to the kirk and sessioun, that with thame ordour may be tackin thairanent as apertenis, ather be publict repentance or uthervayis as salbe thocht expedient be the kirk and sessioun, and this present act to extent it self to mennis wyffis and thair bairnis, with quhom the maisteris of the houshald salbe hauldin to tak ordour that thay may forbeir sweiring, sall exact of thair wyffis the penaltie of aucht d. as oft as thay fall, and punische thair barnis be palmeris, and for better executioun of this act it wes deuysit that ilk maister of houshald sall hawe ane box to put in the saidis penalteis, according to the custume of wther weill reformit townis and congregationis, sa sone as possiblie thay may hawe thame.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, balleis, and counsall, with consent of the communitie, wpon complaynt of Gilbert Atholl and Thomas Atholl, quhyt fischeris in Futtie, aganis Jon Nuckall, Jon Hendersone, Alex^{r}· Nuckall, and W^{m}· Cowye, quhyt fischeris their, for the cutting and destroying of ane lapster nett, maid, sett up, and placed be the said Gilbert and Thomas Athollis, at the Gray Hoip within the Girdlenes, quhairwith not onlie

lapsteris bot also partanis and paddillis, with wther sort of schell fische, was takin, a new ingyne deuysit to that effect, quhilk had nocht bene wsit obefoir; the saidis Jon Nuckall, Jon Hendersone, Alex^{r}. Nuckall, and W^{m}. Cowye, comperand personallie, grantit the samen, and theirfor war convict and put in amerciament of court, and it was statut and ordanit that gif thay or ony wther fischeris, ather duelling in Futtie or Tory, war convict heireftir for doing the lyk, to be banisched this burgh and fredome theirof, and to be pwneist with all regour, becaus it wes fund be the counsall and toun convenit, that the samen was ane necessar ingyne, and profitabill for the commoun weill. 14th August, 1592.

6th January, 1592.

The said day, Maister Williame Murdo being apprehendit within this burght be the prouest and bailleis, upone suir informatioun that he was an mantener of errouris, and ane quha directlie opponit himself to the trew word of God sinceirlie preichit within this realme, and in the mercies of God be the lawis and actis of Parliament professit and estableschit, a blasphemar aganis the ancient Prophetis and Chrystis Apostlis, and the said Maister Williame being tryit thairanent be the saidis prouest, bailleis, and ministrie, of this burght, was fund ane oppin blasphemer aganis the ancient Propheittis and Chrystis Apostlis, ane quha damnis the haill Auld Testament, except the Ten Commandimentis; and the New Testament, except the Lordis Prayer; a oppin railzear aganis the ministrie and treuth preichit, and is sic a blasphemous heretyk that he can not be sufferit in ane republict; quharfor the said Maister Willeam is presentlie ordanit to be declairit at the mercat croce of this burght ane oppin blasphemer of the treuth, mantener of errouris, and theirfoir decernit and ordanit him to be baneist and exylit this burgh and fredome theirof, and that he sall na wayis repair, hant, nor resort theirto, in ony tyme heireftir; certefeing him that gif he beis apprehendit or fund within this burgh or libertie theirof in ony tyme cumming, that he sal be brint on the cheik and his luggis cutit, inhibiting all and sindrie the inhabitantis of this burgh to receave, hous, herbrye, intertein, beir company, or schaw favour, to the said Maister Willeam heireftir, wnder the paine of banischement to be incurrit be sic as sall happin to be fund culpabill of his ressait, intertanement, giffing of hous, herbrye, or meat or drink to him in tyme cumming.

8th January, 1592.

8th January, 1592.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, wnderstanding that the burghis of Edinburgh, Dundye, Perth, and wtheris townis be south this burgh, perceaving the gryt disordour and confusioun that presentlie now regnis within the haill realme, trubill and calamiteis quhairwith the same is presentlie grevit, and cheiflie the persecutioun, intentit and deuysit to hawe bene put in practeis be the enemies of Chrystis treu evangel, aganis the ministrie and professouris theirof within the burrowis, hes for thair awin safetyes caus, and for publict quyetnes within the saidis burrowis, causit thair townis be nichtlie walkit and watchit be the citizenis and inhabitantis of the samen, that na disordour sall enter theirin, na strangearis and extranearis resort and repair theirto, quheirof the magistrattis of the samen suld nocht be aduerteist and forsene, and that this burgh is situat in sic ane pairt of the cuntrie, be itselff alane far distant fra ony wther townis, hes not onlie wpone the occassionis aboue rehersit, bot lykvayis be resson of the gryt disordour now within thir north pairtis quhair the barbarous and crewell helandmen ar brokin lowss, hes wsit gryt crewelteis and rasit hudge hairschippis, quhilk is ane mater that tuichis this burgh and inhabitantis thairof, lyand sa neir hand to the hielandis, it being ane oppin toun; for thir caussis, thocht meit and expedient, deuysit and ordanit, with consent of the haill toun convenit this day in thair heid court, that this burgh, as the remanent burrowis be south the samen sall be nichtlie watchit and walkit during the space that sall be thocht expedient be the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, the portis thairof maid fast and nichtlie lockit, the catbandis nichtlie festinit, and that ilk nichtbour and inhabitant of this burgh sall hawe, keip and wphald thair bak dykis and bak yettis fast and sufficient, and that the said nichtlie watche sal be of sic a numer of the inhabitantis thairof as sall be thocht meit and expedient be the baillie of the quarter, ilk persone, inhabitant of this burgh, being warnit to the wache to cum theirto to the gaird hous at the tyme appoyntit, in armour, jack, steil bonat, spair, halbert, or lang gun, and remane for that nicht in the wache, at sic places of the toune as he sal be appoyntit be the baillie of the quarter, to [ ] houris in the morning, and quhasoeuer sal be absent fra the wache, being warnit theirto, or not remain thereat during the tyme appoyntit, to incur the wnlaw of tuentie s. on forgiffin.

10*th January*, 1592.

10th January, 1592.

The said daye, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, ordanit the haill toun, inhabitantis thairof bayth frie and onfrie, to be warnit be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the toun, to compeir the morne, the xi. of this instant, within the paroche kirk of this burgh immediatlie eftir the sermone, betuix nyne and ten houris afoir noyne, to gif thair aythis in presence of thair ministrie and magistrattis, and to be sworne solemnlie for mantenance of the caus of trew religioun presentlie professit within this realme according to the actis of parliament sett doun theiranent, his majesties proclamatioun maid theirupoun obefoir, and publict band concerning the samen, and to subscryue the said band, subscryuit be his majestie and sett out in prent, sic as can subscryue be thame selffis, and sic as can nocht subscryue, to wphald thair handis, to do and performe the same in presence of the ministrie, and that upon the present perrell and danger, intendit and deuysit be the enemies of the treu religioun, to hawe bene execut aganis the ministrie and professouris of the samen, and to heir and sie solid ordour sett doun thairanent, as sall be thocht expedient, and as it is embracit be the burrowis be south, certifeing sic as comperis not to the effect foirsaid, that thay sall incur the payne of fourtie s. for thair absence, and be reput and estemit as enemies to the quyetnes of the toun.

31*st January*, 1592.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, electit, nominat, and chesit Dauid Cargill, to be watter baillie quhill Michaelmes nixt cummis, quhom thay ordanit to attend wpon the herbrie and schoir of this burgh, that na channell, stanes, sand, nor any uther thing be cassin in the trink of the watter, or within the fluid merk, out of schippis, craris, or bottis, and that the skipperis or awneris of the schippis or craris cumming to the samen fra the south or north partis of this realme, or fra any foran cuntreis, present to the said watter baillie or to the magistrattis of this burght, the just entrie of the gudis, geir, and merchandrie in the saidis schippis, craris, or boittis, with the names of the merchandis and awneris of the samen: as alsua, the skipperis of all craris or boittis passing out of this herbrie to wther partis to do the lyk, to the effect, that forbiddin gudis and wnfremenis gudis may be knawin, and that all schippis, craris, or boittis, cumming to the herbrie of this burgh with coillis, lyme,

1st January, 1592. sklaittis, or wther common necessaris, to be sauld, that the samen sall be distributit to the nichtbouris of this burgh be the discretioun of the baillie and magistrattis, for sic paynis as is agreit on with the skipperis or awneris of the samen, and that na persone quhatsumeuer frie nor onfrie, presume to tak ony proffeit or commoditie on coillis, lyme, sklaitt, or wther common necessaris in tyme cuming, according to the ordinance maid thairanent obefoir, wnder the payne of [ ] s. to be incurrit be the contravenar of this statut.

Eodem die.

The quhilk daye, forsamekill as their hes bene duyers fundatouris of alterages within the paroche kirk of this burgh, quha as patronis hes giffin dyuers and sindrie annuellis to the samen, for idolatrous service to be maid be preistis for thame, thair parentis, and successouris, and thay being laik alterages and patronages, the patronis and fundatoris theirof, now succeding theirto in their parentis and predicessouris richt and place of the samen, not onlie applyis the saidis annuell rentis to thair awin particular uses, bot as fundatoris, usurpis libertie and previledge of buriall place within the said kirk, quhair the said altar stuid, without payment of ony dewtie to the maister of the kirk wark for the samen, giffing nor granting to the fabrik and wphauld of the said kirk, na pairt of the saidis annuellis, quhilkis aucht and suld be bestowit theirupoun, or wpon sum uther godlie uses, quhilk giffis occasioun to wtheris that hes na fundationis to put wp thair armes wpon dyvers peleris of the said kirk, and in dyvers wther partis of the samen, at thair awin hand, without licence of the prouest, bailleis, counsall, or maister of kirk wark, expres aganis all guid ordour, for remeid quhairof the prouest, bailleis, and consall deuysit and ordanit that all sic as alledgis to fundationis within the said kirk, nothwithstanding that thay be fundatoris and patronis of altaris, sall haiff na mair benefit of beriall within the samen, wnto the tyme thay giff in and mortifie the annuell rentis quhilkis was votit be thair predicessouris, patronis and fundatoris thairof, to the wphauld of the fabrik of the said paroche kirk, or sustentatioun of the ministrie, or to sum wther godlie uses, bot that thay sall pay for thair beriall places as wtheris that hes na fundationis, according to the ordinance sett doun theiranent, ay and quhill thay gif in and mortefie thair annuellis to the effect foirsaid, and that all armes put wp on the pilleris of the said kirk be sic as hes na fundationis

sall be cancellat, and that nane presume nor tak wpon hand heireftir to caus put wp thair armes in ony piller or place within the said kirk, except in glasin wyndois, quhither thay be fundatouris or nocht, without licence had and obtenit thairunto of the prouest, bailleis, and counsall. 31st January, 1592.

21*st February*, 1592.

The said daye, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, &c., deuysit and ordanit that thair salbe propynit to his majesties hous at his graces cumming to this burght, ane punscheoun of auld Burdeaux vyne, gif it may be had for money, and gif not, ane last of the best and fynest aill that may be gottin within this burght, together with the spycerie efter following; that is to say, four pound weycht of pepper, halff pund of measis, four unces of safrone, half pund of cannele, fourtene pund of suckour, tua dussone buistis of confeittis, ane dussone buistis of scorchettis, ane dusson buistis of succour almondis, ane dussone buistis of confectionis, and ane chalder of coillis, and the deane of gild and thessaurer sall deburse and pay for the samen, of the reddiest of the accidentis that is in thair handis, or ather of thame, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair comptis, nochtwithstanding of the ordinance of counsall maid obefoir, ordaining that all frie syluer that sall happin the said thesaurer and deane of gild to receawe be ressone of thair offices, (the kingis and townis pensioneris being alwayis first payit), to be employit for payment of the annuell rent of his majesties tocher of the Martomes terme last bypast and Witsonday terme to cum, quhairanent the prouest, bailleis, and consall dispensis be ressone of the present necessitie, and that the custume is, that ever the kingis and princes of this realme at thair cumming to this burgh, hes bene in all tyme bygane propynit with vyne and spycerie.

18*th June*, 1593.

The said day, in presence of the prouest, bailleis, and consall of the burgh of Abirden, comperit Dauid, bischop of Abirdene, chancellar of the Universitie, and Mr. Peter Blakburne, deane of facultie of the samen, and producit ane letter of electioun of James Forbes of Tulliboy, in and to the office of ekonomous, collectorie, and stewartrie of the new colledge of Abirdene, foundit be ane nobill and potent lord, George Erll Marischall, for collecting, calling, and persewing for the rentis of the said colledge, of the dait at Abirdene the sevint day of Junii instant, and desyrit the

18th June, 1593.

prouest, bailleis, and consallis consent and auctoritie to be interponit thairto, speciallie for removing of the tenentis of the Gray Freris yardis and houssis of the samen, in name of the saidis prouest, bailleis, and counsall, quhilkis the saidis prouest, bailleis, and counsall authorezit, homologat, and apprevit, and interponit thair auctoritie thairto, gevand thair full power to the said James to perseu to the effect foirsaid, upone the quhilkis the said chancellor and deane of facultie, and the said James for himselff, tuk act and instrument.

25th June, 1593.

The quhilk day, the bailleis, upon dyvers complantis gevin in this day, and all wther court dayis sen the feist of Witsonday last bypast, be dyvers and sindrie nichtboris of this burght, wpon dyveris and sindrie men and wemen servandis thairof, quha being feit with thame to have enterit at the said feist of Witsonday to thair service, making doubill promeiss to thame and utheris quhom thay have servit obefoir, deferris to enter to thair service, to thair gryt hurt throw laik of servandis, for remeid quhairof deuysit, statut, and ordanit that quhatsumeuir servand, man or woman, within this burgh that sall happin heireftir to mak doubill promeissis anent thair feing with tua maissteris or maistressis, that the persone macking the said doubill promeiss, and feing with tua dyveris maisteris, sall efter verificatioun thairof be put in the govis, thairin to remain for the space of sex houris, and to be baneist this burgh and fredome theirof, during the prouest and bailleis will.

11*th July*, 1593.

The said day, the persones of the counsall forsaid, considdering that the stepill of the tolbuyth as it is now decayit, to the dishonour and dishonestie of this burgh, and gryt detriment of the knock and commoun bell thairin placed and hinging, liklie the ane to decay and the vther to fall doun be ressone of the insufficiencie of the said stepill, quhilk can not defend wadder, wynd, nor rayn, for preservatioun of the said knock and bell, and commoun decoratioun of this burgh to be ane wark therfor most necessarie to be helpit, and becaus of wther weightie materis interveining sen the falling doun therof, the samen hes beine negligentlie oursene, and that presentlie their is nocht of the commoun gude of this burgh nor accidentis therof in the handis of the thesaurar nor deane of gild, on

bestowit on the townis wther necessar effaris, therfor for the presant till ane mair easie mean and way may be fund out be the counsall, anent the wpbigging and repairing of the said stepill, deuysit and ordanit that the same sall be this symmer with all conuenient diligence and speid, helpit and maid watter thicht, for preservatioun of the said knok and bell: and for doing theirof hes desirat and assignit the wnlaw of Thomas Johnestoun, extending to fourtie merkis; the wnlaw of Robert Donald extending to wther fourtie merkis; togidder with the wnlaw of Williame Dun extending to ten merkis, to be imployit for mending theirof till that wther accidentis may be had to do the samen, and nominat and appoyntit Dauid Cargile to be maister of wark to the samen, quha acceptit the said office wpon him. 11th July, 1593.

18*th July*, 1593.

The said daye, the persones of counsall of the said burgh, knawing that ther hes arryvit dyveris schippis from Noroway and wtheris pairtis, to the watter of Newburgh, within the precinct and jurisdiction of this burgh, losing and laidning their, as gif the same war ane frie port, expres aganis the auld ancient liberteis and immuniteis grantit to this burgh, be his majesties predicessouris, to the gryt hurt and preiudice theirof, and that thair is presentlie in the said watter thrie or four schippis presentlie losand and laidnand, expreslie inhibit that ony their suld be lost or laidnit within the precinct and shireffdome of Abirdene, bot at the port and heavin of the burght of Abirdene; Theirfoir for manteining of thair awin liberteis and frances thairanent, ordanit Maister Richard Irwyng, deane of gild, and Dauid Cargill, thesaurer, to pas with ane officer of armis, and ane or tua nichtboris, to the said watter of Newburgh, and be wertew of the lettres gevin to this burgh upon thair liberteis, to areist and fence the said schippis, tak the sailis fra the rayis thairof, and use all ordour thairanent as accordis of the law and ressone, and the expensis that salbe maid be the deane of gild heirupoun, to be allowit to him in his comptis.

Eodem die.

The said day, the consall deuysit and ordanit Maister Richard Irwyng, deane of gild, to ansuir and obey Andro Inglis, sweschman, commoun

18th July, 1593. servand to the toun, of ane garment of reid Inglis flaning, wpon the said Androis supplicatioun presentit this day to the consall, quhilk salbe allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

31*st July*, 1593.

The said day, the persones of consall of the said burgh efter folowing, &c., upon the barbarous crewaltie laitlie usit and execut upon the [ ] day of Julii instant, be the disordourit and lawles helandmen in Birss, Glentanner, and their about, nocht onlie in the onmerciful murthering of men and bairnis, bot in the maisterfull and violent robbing and spulzeing of all the bestiall, guidis, and geir of a gryt pairt of the inhabitantis of theas boundis, rasing of gryt hairschip furth of the samen, being committit to ewous and nar this burgh, within xx. mylis theirunto, deuysit and ordanit for preservatioun of this burgh and inhabitantis theirof, fra the tyrannous invasion of the saidis hieland men, quha has na respect to God nor man, that the haill inhabitantis of this burgh, fensiball persones alsweill onfrie as frie, salbe in reddiness weill armit for the defence of this burgh, thair awin lyvis, gudis, and geir, and resisting and repressing of the said heland men as occasioun salbe offered, at all tymes and houris as thay salbe requrit and chargit, ather be the handbell or be the drum passand throu the streittis wpon thrie howris warning, ilk persone wnder the pane of fourtie s. on forgevin, and that thay and ilk ane of thame be in reddyness upon the aduerteisment foirsaid, weill bodin in feir of wear as said is, to folow thair magistrattis and sic as salbe appoyntit be thame, commandaris and leadaris, ather to defend the invasion of the said hieland men or to persew, as salbe thocht expedient, wnder the pane of [ ], and that the portis of this burgh be maid fast in the suirest and maist easy vay, as thay best may be maid in sic shortnes of tyme be the thesaurer and deane of gild, with the first and reddiest of frie syluer in thair handis, accidentis and utheris quhatsumeuer intromettit with be thame, and exploratouris to be send in the cuntrie to dyvers baronis and in dyveris pairtis to gett intelligence quhair the said hieland men presentlie ar, of thair intentioun, gif it may be haid, to the effect that the magistrattis of this burgh may be theirof aduerteist and forsene, &c.

The taxt roll of the haill burrowis of Scotland for thair pairt of the

taxatioun of ane hundreth thowsand pundis grantit to the Kingis Majestie be his estaittes, in the moneth of Januar, in the yeir of God, 1593. 31st July, 1593.

Striuiling,	£333	6	8
Lynlithco,	150	0	0
Rathsay,	66	13	4
Dumbartan,	150	0	0
Ranfrew,	150	0	0
Ruthtghelin,	4	13	4
Air,	333	6	8
Irwyng,	222	5	0
Glascho,	583	6	8
Kirkcowbrycht,	166	13	4
Wigtoun,	166	13	4
Quhytherne,	83	6	8
Lanerik,	150	0	0
Jedburght,	200	0	0
Selkirk,	100	0	0
Peblis,	133	6	8
Hadingtoun,	333	6	8
Nor Berwik,	41	13	4
Dunbar,	83	6	8
Lawder,	55	11	8
Dumfress,	291	13	4
Anstruthir, Estir,	300	0	0
Anstruthir, Vestir,	83	6	8
Culross,	83	6	8
Inuerkeithing,	50	0	0
Edinburght,			
Abirdene,	1388	6	8
Dundie,	1791	13	4
Perth,			
Banff	83	6	8
Dumfermling,	133	6	8
Craill,	133	6	8
Forfar,	75	0	0
Breychen	233	6	8

31st July, 1593.

Montroiss,	300	0	0
Elgein,	208	6	8
Inuernes,	266	13	4
Arbrotht,	150	0	0
Sanct Androwis,	557	0	8
Cowper,	266	13	4
Cullen,	41	13	4
Forres,	55	11	8
Narne,	41	13	4
Thayne,	100	0	0
Dysert,	388	18	4
Kircaldie,	300	0	0
Pettinweyme,	166	13	4
Bruntiland,	133	6	8
Kyngorne,	116	13	4
Kilrynny,	41	13	4

The taxatioun of the haill burrowis for thair pairt of the said hundreth thousand poundis, extending to sextene thowsand sex hundreth thrie scoir sex lib. threttene schillingis iiii. d.

8th October, 1593.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, considering that amangis sundrie wtheris gryt disordouris laitlie croppin in within this burght, ane not of the smallest importance is the commoun resort, residence, and duelling within the samen of a gryt numer of idill persones, men and women, not having land nor maisteris, nather yit using ony lauchtfull merchandice, craft, nor occupatioun quhairby to win thair leving, fleing as apperis fra thair awin duelling and remaining places, and quhair thay have bene borne, be ressone of some onlauchtfull caussis and odious crymes quhairof thay ar culpabill, quhilkis ar very contagious enemies to the commoun weill of this burgh, theirfor statut and ordanit that na maner of persone salbe sufferit or permittit to duell within this toun, bot sic as salbe notourlie knawn to have sufficient rent of thair awin, or sum honest moyen, industrie, craft, or occupatioun, to leive on in tyme cumming, bot that all sic persones sall remove thameselffis, wyffis, bairnis, and famelie furth of the samen betuixt and Martimes nixt cummis, or than tak thame to sum honest service, moyen, and industrie to wyn thair leving,

and gif ane reckining thairof to the magistrattis of this burgh, quhen thay salbe requyred, certefeing all sic as salbe apprehendit within the burgh fra the said feist of Martemes first, quhais forme and tred of leving sall not be tryit to be honest, knawin to the magistrattis and nichtbouris to be wynneris of thair leving, be sum honest moyen, craft, and occupatioun, that thay and euerie ane of thame sall be convict be ane previe inquest as onlaufull nichtbouris, and banischit this burgh as defamit persones, and that na nichtbor of this burgh, burgessis, craftismen, nor wtheris sett housis to ony sic persones fra the said feist of Martemes furth, hous, herbrie, supplie, or interteine thame in ony wayes, bot sall remowe thame furth of thair houssis within that ilk space, wnder the payne of ten pundis to be incurrit be the awnar of the hous, to be upliftit alsweill for tymes bygane as to cum, efter lauchfull convictioun, according to the auld ordinance sett doun theiranent obefoir; and to the effect that this present ordinance may tak the better execution, and this toun purgit of sic idill persones, thocht guid and expedient that the bailleis sall pass, ilk baillie throcht his awin quarter, and tak diligent inquisitioun be uptaking of the names of sic persones, quhidder thay be men or wemen, and of the awnaris of the houssis, quhair thay duell and remanis, and mak intimatioun of the present ordinance, bayth to the ane and the uther, to the effect thay pretend na ignorance of the samen. 8th October, 1593.

17*th October*, 1593.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall considdering that not onlie the common Inchis of this burght, quhilkis in all tymes bygane has bene weill kepit and preservit for the commoun use of the toun in tyme of trubill and wear, quhen as occasioun servit in furnesing of faill to big bastailzeis and utheris defensis, bot lykvayis the commoun Lynkis of the samen, at the leist dyveris pairtis theirof, quhilk servis lykvayis to the commoun proffit and use of the burgh, this yeir and within thir few yeris bygane, is and hes bene cassin up and delvit be casting of feal theirupoun, and leading thairof to dyveris particular mennis uses at thair awin handis, without licence of the prouest, bailleis, and consall, quhairby the saidis Inchis ar sa flayne and tirrit, that in caice the toun had presentlie ado, thair is na faill to be had thairin, and mony pairtis of the Lynkis cassin wp be casting of faill, to the gryt hurt and detriment thairof, for remeid quhairof deuysit, statut, and ordanit that na maner of persone within

17th October, 1593.

this burgh, frie nor onfrie, presume nor tak upon hand for the space of thrie yeiris efter the day and daitt heirof, to cast ony faill or duvat in the saidis Inchis or Linkis, wnder the pane of fourtie s. to be incurrit be the contravenar, efter he be convict, *toties quoties*.

26th November, 1593.

The said day, it being wnderstand be the town, convenit this day to thair publict rowping, that the commoun seall of this burgh, quhairwith the chartouris and preceptis of lesing of the fischingis and land tackis haldin of the samen ar seallit, as also the previe seall, callit the seall of caus, quhairwith the testimoniallis and boirbrevis that passis to uther pairtis beyond sey ar seallit, hes gevin na proffit nor commoditie to the commoun use of the toun, in that at the sealing of the saidis evidentis the persones having evidentis to be seallit, the said commoun seall hes bestowit expensiss and chargis of geving of wyne to the subscryveris of the saidis evidentis, quhilk thay have thocht guid to be convertit for sealing wyne to the commoun use and proffit of the toun, and theirfor ordanit that all persones that sall have evidentis to be seallit with the said commoun seall, sall pay to the keparis theirof fourtie s. for ilk seall, and that all persones that sall have testimoniallis or boirbrevis to be seallit with the said previe seall sall pay to the keparis theirof, thay being extranearis, fourtie s. for euerie seall, and gif thay be burgessis of this burgh tuentie s., and that the keparis of the saidis seallis sall be comptabill and ansuirabill for the said seall syluer to the prouest, baillies, consall, and auditouris of the comptis, and employit and bestowit to the commoun guid of the toun, and this act to indure quhill Michaelmes nixt, and langer as sal be thocht expedient.

And theireftir it was procedit to the rowping of the sex merchand buythis vnder the Tolbuyth, and efter lang and publict rowping theirof, dyuers persones offering for the samen, and at last the sowme of aucht pundis being offerit for ilk ane of the saidis sex buythis be the present occupearis theirof, to witt, Johnne Layng, Thomas Fynnie, Gilbert Henrie, Patrick Smyth, James Donaldsone, and Johne Gray, the samen was sett to the saidis persones, ilk ane their awin buyth, for the said sowme of aucht pundis, fra the feist of Witsonday furth nixt to cum quhilk sal be their entrie thervnto, to the feast of Witsonday, in the yeir

of God j^{m} v^{c} foir scoire and fyfteine yeiris, for payment of the quhilk sowme of aucht pundis for ilk ane of the saidis buythis to the thesaurer of this burgh, the said Johnne Layng becom actit for himself, and as cautionar for the remanent occupearis theirof, and they obleist thame to releve the said Johne, ilk ane of his awin part respective. 26th Nov., 1593.

8th December, 1593.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, deuysit and ordanit the proclamatioun vnderwritten, anent the commoun fair callit Witsondayes fair, grantit be his maiestie to this burgh to be proclamit publictlie at the mercat croce of this burgh, and devulgat be a loud voice be the berar of the drum, throw the haill streittis of the samen, to the effect that the same may be notified, nocht onlie to the inhabitantis of this burght, bot also to the people duelling to landvart, of the quhilk proclamatioun the tenour followis: For samekill as be lait act of his hienes parliament hauldin at Edinburgh in August last, be the aduise of the thrie estaittis, his maiestie hes grantit ane frie fair and mercat to the burgh of Abirden, to stand within the toun and fredome of the samen, to all and sindrie his hienes lieges, with quhatsumeuer merchandice, horssis, nolt, scheip, and wtheris guidis, for the space of aucht dayes yeirlie, immediatlie preceding the feist of Witsonday, to be callit heirefter Witsondayes fair: We, therfor, the prouest, baillies, consall, and communitie of Abirdene, dois all and sindrie his maiesties legis within this realme, to wit, that the said fair and mercatt sall begyn, God willing, wpon Setterday aucht dayes, immediatlie preceding Witsonday nixt cummis, and sall continew fra thir furth euerie day except the Sonday quhill Witsonday *exclusiue*, and that all men sall be welcum theirvnto, ontrublit or molestit be ony kynd of excyse, impost, custume, or taxatioun quhatsumeuer.

24th December, 1593.

The quhilk day, comperit personallie in judgement, Andro Kyng, procuratour for the communitie, and exhibit and producit in presence of the haill toun convenit this day within thair tolbuith, the articlis folowing concerning the privie inquest of burrowis, quhilk he causit be publictlie red in judgement, in presence of the haill toun, convenit as said is, and intimeit the samen to the persones electit and chosin on the

24th Dec 1593. privie inquest of this burgh, and desyrit the samen to be insert and registered in the baillie court buikis of this burgh, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, of the quhilk the tenour folowis: Thir ar the poyntes and articles of the previe inquest, on the quhilkis, nichtbouris sworne to the samen, aucht to depone the veritie be thair aythis.

Item, in the first, gif any man hes dispersonit the prouest, bailleis, or ony wther officier in the executioun of his office, or hes maid thame impediment, throw the quhilkis thay micht not guidlie exerce nor do thair charge.

Item, secundlie, gif ony hes forstallit the burgh in the bying of cattell or ony wther merchandice or gudis, or in selling of the samen.

Item, thirdlie, gif thair be ony land within burgh forfaltit throw ony ressonabill caus.

Item, ferdlie, gif thair be ony men or wemen defamaris, sklanderaris, rebellis, or commoun nicht walkeris within burght.

Item, gif ony man be baneist the toun for ony dettis, evill deid, or uther cryme, and theireftir returnis in the samen agane.

Item, gif thair be any man, bastard, quhilk throw his labouris and schift hes conqueist land within burgh, levand na air lauchtfully gottin of his bodye behind him.

Item, gif thair be any commoun wennellis within burgh closit, and be quhom thay ar closit.

Item, gif thair be ony land within burgh or outwith quhilk aucht na few to the kyng.

Item, gif thair be any man within burgh quhilk haldis of ane uther than of the kyng payand him ane yeirlie rent.

Item, gif ony man within burgh impetratis or caussis lord, laird, landit man, or ony uther gentillman duelling to landvart, to cum to the burght courtis in preiudice or damnage of his nichtbouris.

Item, gif ony man drawis his nichtbouris fra secular courtis be ony spirituall court quhatsumeuer.

Item, gif ony man wsis doubill or fals measouris, balances, weychtis, or elnis.

Item, gif the marchis, fredomes, and boundis of burgh be weill and faythtfullie kepit be nichtbouris of the burght to utheris.

Item, gif thair be any consideratioun or band amangis any pairt of the nichtbouris of the toun, quhairthrow ane uther pairt of the nichtbouris

of the samen ar molestit or trublit, or quhairthrow the pure pepill of the samen ar oppressit and harmit any maner of way. 24th Dec., 1593.

Item, giff cordonaris and litstaris within burgh, thay being brether of the gild, usis daylie thair craftis and offices with thair awin handis.

Item, gif cordonaris within burgh be barkeris of ledder.

Item, giff the commoun burss of the toun be weill and faythfullie kepit, and as it efferis equallie deuydit.

Item, giff the prouest or baillies for favour or reward sellis the fredome and libertie of the burght to ony man, but consent and licence of the samen.

Item, gif thair be any within burght quhilk ar nocht callit, nor will be callit commoun brousteris, neuertheles sellis aill sumtyme to thair nichtboris, usand taibling in thair houssis, and to sundrie utheris, the aill being untaistit nor yit price maid thairupoun.

Item, gif thair be any quhilkis ludgis, herbries, or receavis misdoaris and committaris of crymes within thair ludgingis or houssis, or assistis thame in ony sort.

Item, giff thair be any quhilkis hes avay out of the burgh woll, hyd, skyn, or ony uther merchandice or gudis, of the quhilkis thay have nocht payit thair dew custume, aucht and wount.

Item, giff thair be ony nichtbouris within burgh quhilk hes revelit the secreittis and consall of thair nichtboris, or of the kingis, or of the secreittis done in inqueistis or assiss, to utheris to quhom thay aucht nocht to hawe tauld.

Item, giff thair be any quhilk hes gevin landis or annuell rentis to religious places, or in the handis of religious men, or uther kirkmen, without licence of the king.

Item, giff thair be any nichtbour quilk fraudfullie and iniustlie takis of the marchis of his nichtbouris in propertie, or of the toun in commountie.

Item, giff thair be any bringaris out of uther realmes or cuntries of fals monye within thair awin realme.

Item, giff thair be ony sentences or domes falsit within burght not presentit to thame, thay suld be presentit.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, the persones of consall, &c., deuysit and ordanit Willeam Loremar, thesaurer, to deburss the soume of tuentie poundis money to thrie Ungariannis, quhilkis in defence of christian religioun war tackin

24th Dec., 1593.

be the Turk, for thair help and support, being presentit to the counsall be his Majesties letteris of recommendatioun, quhilk soume salbe allowit to the said thesaurar in his comptis.

22*nd February*, 1593.

The said day, the consall folowing the exampill of the townis of Edinburght, Perth, Dundy, and Montroiss, quhilkis laitlie within thir thrie or four dayis, for that it hes plesit God to grant to his Majestie ane sone, a prince to this realme and cuntrie, had maid sum solemnitie according to the ancient custume maid at the birth of princes of this realme, in signe and tokin of thair joyful hartis, be bigging of fyris, praysing and thanking God for the benefitt, be singing of psalmes throu the haill rewis and streittis of the tounis, drinking of wyne at the croces thairoff, and uthervayes liberally bestowing of the spyceries, ordanit the lyk forme and ordour to be within this burght on Sunday nixt, the xxiiii. of this instant, immediatlie folowing the efter nune sermone, and ane tabill to be coverit at the mercat croce of the samen, for the magistrattis and bayth the consallis, with tua bunnis of Inglis beir, to be placed and run at the said mercat croce, the vyne to be liberallie drunkin in sic a ressonabill quantitie as the deane of gild sall deuyse, four dussoun buistis of skorchettis, confecttis, and confectionis, to be placed on the said tabill, and cassin amongis the pepill, with glassis to be brockin ; and ordanis Johnne Tilliedaffe, deane of gild, to prouyd the samen and mak expenssis thairupoun, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

22*nd March*, 1593.

The said day, anent the complaynt gewin in be Maister Thomas Cargill, maister of the grammer school of this burght, aganis Mr. Dauid Kanzie, for the teiching of grammer within this burght, instructing of bairnis in oratrie, poetrie, and sic as belangis to that liberall science, without licence, libertie, and previledge grantit to the said Maister Dauid, be the prouest, bailleis, and consall, and the said Maister Thomas, maister of the grammer school, usurping theirby the said Mr Thomas place, to quhom onlie it is lesum, and to sic as he sall deput wnder him, to teich grammer within this burgh, as the said priveledges grantit to the said Mr. Thomas, and utheris maisteris of the grammer school of the samen befoir him, schawin to the prouest and bailleis dois testifie, upon the quhilk complaynt the

prouest and bailleis having callit and convenit the said Maister Dauid, fand be sufficient tryell tackin be thame that he did teich grammer within this burght, and instruct bairnis thairin, without licence or tollerance of the prouest and bailleis, and of the said Mr. Thomas, and held ane publict grammer school, express aganis the ordinances sett doun obefoir, and previleges grantit to the said Mr. Thomas, and that the said Mr. Dauid had done wrang theirthrou; inrespectt quhairoff the prouest and bailleis decernit and ordanit the said Mr. Dauid to desist and ceas in tym cumming from all teiching of bairnis in grammer, or haulding of ane grammer school to instruct thame, without licence had and obtenit be him of the prouest, bailleis, and consall, and of the said Mr. Thomas to that effect, upon the quhilkis the said Mr. Thomas tuik act of court and instrument. 22nd March, 1593.

8th May, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, ordanit Henrie Forbes, baillie, to caus mak ane hundreth and ten spearis with all convenient speid, be ressone the town is presentlie destitute of lang wapynnis, and ordanit the said Henrie to be payit theirof be the deane of gild, or thesaurar, of the reddiest of the accidentis of this burght presentlie in thair handis, or that sall happin to receave heirefter, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair comptis.

16th July, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and persones of the consall, &c., forsamekill as thair is this day arryvit within the herbrie of this burght ane schip of Caleis, callit the Esperance, the maister callit Charlis Hammell, quhairin is thrie strangearis quha ar suspect to be papistis and traffiqueris, be ressone that Mr. James Gordone cam out of Caleis in the said schip with thame, and landit this day furth theirof on the sandis of this burght, theirfor the consall thocht guid and expedient that the said schip, with the strangeris theirin and haill equipage theirof, sall be transportit south and presentit to his majestie: and to that effect ordanit tuelf of the nichtbouris of the town to be send with thame for presenting of thame to his majestie, and ordanit Johnne Tullidaf, deane of gild, and Willeam Loremar, thesaurar, to tak up sex scoir poundis upon proffit, for furnesing of the saidis tuelf persones and macking of thair expenssis, quhilk soume the consall actit thame to refound to the

16th July, 1594.

saidis deane of gild and thesaurar, or to allow the same to thame in thair comptis: and the said maister Johnne Cheyne, prouest, offerit him reddie ather to pas about with the said schip or remane in the toun as the consall thocht expedient.

17*th July*, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, with consent of the haill communitie convenit this daye, &c., deuysit and ordanit that the thrie strangearis quha arryvit within the herbrie of this burght, upon the xvi. of this instant, in ane schip of Caleis calleit the Esperance, the maister callit Charlis Hammell, sall be transportit furth of thair schip, with the skipper and equippage theirof, and brocht into the toun and put in firmance within the tolbuyth, with the geir in the schip, their to be gairdit and kepit be the toun quhill farder ordour be takin with thame, and that becaus the said schip was uexit and the wynd was contrarious, quhairthrow scho culd nocht be transportit furth of the herbrie with the saidis strangearis.

18*th July*, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, nominat and appoyntit Alexander Forbes to pas to his majestie as commissionar for this burght, to notifie and declair to his hienes the arryving within this herbrie of ane schip of Caleis, with Mr. James Gordone and thrie strangearis with him, quhilkis strangeris ar in firmance within the tolbuyth, to the effect his majestie may tak sic ordour theiranent as his hienes sall think expedient, and ordanit Johnne Tulliedaf, deane of gild, to deburss to the said Alexander the soume of fourtie merkis money, for macking of his expenssis, quhilk sowme sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

19*th July*, 1594.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, auld and new, being convenit at consall, and having takin consultatioun at gryt lyntht with the communitie, ressoning upon the missive direct to thame be the Erlis of Anguss, Huntlye, and Erroll, and be the laird of Auchyndoun, for delyuering to thame of the thrie strangeris laitlie arryvit within this herbrie, wpon the xvi. day of this instant, presentlie being in firmance within the tolbuyth; for eschewing of the eminent perrell of the haill

toun, being suirlie informit of the gryt forcis of the saidis erlis, mair nor pairtie to the toun, quha war alreddie lyand about the toun reddie to invaid and persew the samen with fyre and sword: deuysit and ordanit, with uniforme consent, but oppositioune or contradictioun, that rather or the toun suld be put in hazert or perrell, that the saidis thrie strangeris suld be delyuerit to the said erlis, according to the quhilk ordinance the saidis strangeris war delyuerit to thame furth at the portis. 19th July, 1594.

14*th August*, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, considdering the haynous sklander and iniurie committit be Issobell Abircromby, servand to Agnes Crawfurd, to Christen Kyntoir, spous of Dauid Robertsone, officier, as also, to Agnes Dovartie, spous to Thomas Scott, in calling of the said Christen witche karling, vegabond karling, and that scho com out of Strathbogye with four gartennis, and calling the said Agnes Glengerie harlot, as the actis of the said Issobellis convictioun theirfor, of the dait the xiii of August instant, proportis; as siclyk, considdering that the said Issobell was delatit be the previe inquest as ane insufficient persone, and be ressone of non finding of cautioun be hir, was ordanit to be baneschit: theirfor ordanit the said Issobell to be apprehendit and hir craig to be put in the govis, theirin to remain for the space of thrie houris, and incontinentlie theireftir to be baneist and exylit this burght, fredome and territorie theirof, perpetuallie in all tyme cumming.

16*th September*, 1594.

The said day, comperit judiciallie, Willeam Fyndlay and Alexander Symsoun burgessis of Abirdene, and grantit and confessit thame to have receavit in borrowing fra Henrie Forbes, bailie, in name of the town, twa peice of artailzeirie, callit twa half slungis, perteining to the toun, and oblegit thame to mak chalmeris and uther furnitour thairunto, quhilk thay inlaik, in France, Flanderis, Ingland, or uther pairtis, and to delyuer the same agane with the furnitour and chalmeris that thay sall happin to mak, gif the saidis peices happinis to remaine onbrockin, quhowsone thay be requyrit for the same, efter their returne, God willing, fra the present woyage, thay being satisfeit be the town for the said furnitour and chalmeris.

20th Sept., 1594.

20th September, 1594.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, deuysit and ordanit Johnne Tulledaff, deane of gild, to pay the sowme of sextene pundis money to Issobell Cullen, spous of Mr. Dauid Rutherfuird, restand to hir for the bankett gevin and maid the tyme of the reconciliatioun betuixt certan of the young men in the toun, and Beroald Innes in Auld Abirdene, quhilk sowme sall be allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

30th September, 1594.

The said day, the counsell having consideration that Johnne Collysone, quha is electit prouest of this burght for the yeir to cum, hes his present duelling in Torrie, and that for his diligent avating on the said office, he may transport himselff, wyff, bairnis, and famelie, to this burgh, and duell theirin during the tyme of his office, and be ressoun he hes nocht a ludging of his awin within this burght, ordanit Alex^r^. Ewyn, deane of gild, to prouyd for ane ludging to him, quhair the same may be maist commodiouslie had for maill, with all convenient diligence, to the effect the said prouest may haue his residence and duelling within this toun, and that the maill of the said ludging salbe payit be the deane of gild of the reddiest of the accidentis and casualiteis belanging to the toun, quhilk sal happin him to receave be vertew of his office, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanit the deutie of the hand bell, intromettit with, and receavit be, James Settoun and Dauid Robertsone, sen the deceise of vmquhile Patrick Leslye, last possessour thairof, quhilk was vpon the xxiiii. day of July last bypast to the twentie day of September instant, to be delywered to Alex^r^. Ewyne, deane of gild, quhilk deutie extendis to threttie four pundis.

5th October, 1594.

The said day, the prouest and baillies decernit and ordenit the assignatioun gevin be his maiestie to Schir Johne Carmichaell of that ilk, knicht, vpoun the sowme of ane thousand pundis of the aucht thousand pundis receauit be the said burght of hes maiesties tocher, as siclyk the assignatioun maid be the said Schir Johne Carmichaell to Robert Jowsie,

merchand burges of Edinburgh, vpon the same sowme of ane thousand pundis, togidder with his maiesties acquittance grantit to this burght vpon the said soume of ane thousand pundis, with his graces missiue directit to the provest, baillies, and counsell, for payment macking theirof to the said Robert Jowsie, to be insert and registrat in the baillie court buikis of this burght, *ad futurum rei memoriam*, quairof the tenour followis: *Apud Edinburght*, [ ] *die mensis Junij, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo quarto:* Forsamekill as the Kingis Maiestie, with aduise of the lordis of his secreit consall, hes assignit and disponit, and be thir presentis assignis and disponis, to his louit, Sir Johne Carmichaell of that ilk, knicht, the sowme of four thowsand pundis vsual money of this realme, of his maiesties tocher guid, being in the handis of the prouest, baillies, counsale, and commonaltie of the citie of Glasgow, as alsua ane thowsand pundis ot the same tocher, being in the handis of the prouest, baillies, counsall, and commonitie of the burght of Aberden, and that to be bestowit and warit vpon sic things as is necessar for his maiesties esquier at the tyme of the baptisme of the prince his darrest sone, with powar to the said Sir Johne, his factouris and servitouris in his name, to ask, craue, receave, intromett with, and vptak the sowmes particularlie above vrytin, fra the prouest, baillies, counsall, and commonaltie of the burrowis forsaidis, to the effect aboue mentionat, and theirupoun acquittances and discharges to giff, quhilkis his hienes declaris salbe als sufficient as giff the samen war subscryvit be his hienes selff, lykas his maiestie promettis to renew the same acquittances with aduise of his consall als oft as neid beis, and theirfor ordanis letteris to be direct to officeris of armes, schireffis in that pairt, charging thame to pas, command, and charge the prouestis, baillies, and counsall of the burrowis foirsaidis, to mak payment to the said Sir Johne Carmichaell, of the sowmes of money particularly aboue specifeit, restand in thair handis, of his majesties said tocher, within ten dayes nixt efter they be chargit thairto, vnder the paine of rebellioun, &c., and giff thay failzie, the said space being bypast, to denounce thame rebellis, and to escheit, &c. *Sic subscribitur*, James R. Cancellarius, Montrois, Tho Thesaurarius, R. Secretarius, Newbotle, Blantyir, Parbroith controllar, Sir G. Hume, Sir Robert Melvill, Clerk Registre, Alexander Hume, Culluthy.

5th October 1594.

Followis the tenour of the assignatioun maid be Sir Johne Carmichaell

5th October, 1594.

to Robert Jowsie:—Be it kend to all men be thir present letteris, me, Sir John Carmichaell of that ilk, knicht, forsamekill as our Soueran Lord, with aduise of the lordis of secreit consall, hes resignit and disponit to me the sowme of four thousand pundis vsuall money of this realme, of his maiestis tocher guid, being in the handis of the prouest, baillies, consall, and communitie of the city of Glasgow; as alsua, the sowme of ane thowsand poundis of the same tocher, being in the handis of the prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of the burght of Abirden, and that to be bestowit and warit vpon sic thingis as is necessar for his maiesties esquier, at the tyme of the baptisme of the prince his darrest sone, &c. &c. And seing Robert Jowsie, merchand, burges of Edinburght, hes avancit and payit to me the sowmes foirsaidis, quhairof I hauld me weill content and satisfeit, and dischargis him, his airis, and assignais of the samin for ewir, &c. &c.

Followis the tenour of his Maiesties acquittance:—*Apud Edinburgh, vltimo die mensis Julii, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo quarto.* The quhilk day, in presens of the lordis of secreit consall, compeirit Mr. Johne Skene, Aduocat to our Souerane Lord, and in his Maiesties name gave in the exoneratioun and discharge vnderwrittin, desyring the same to be actit and registrat in the buikis of secreit consall, according to the tenour of the same: quhilk desyre the saidis lordis finding ressonabill, they ordanit the said exoneratioun and discharge to be actit and registrat in the saidis buikis of secreit counsall, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, and to have the strenth of ane act and decreit of his maiestie and lordis thairof, according to the tenour of the same: of the quhilk exoneratioun and discharge the tenour followis: At Edinburgh, the twentie fyft day of July, the yeir of God j^m v^c fourscoir fourtene yeris, for samekill as be contract and appoyntment maid, betuixt Dauid Setoun of Parbroith, comptrollar to our Soveran Lord, in his name allanerlie vpon the ane pairt [ ] commissionaris for the prouest, baillies, counsall, and commonitie of the burght of Aberden, and William Symmer and Mr. Johne Ross, commissionaris for the prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of the citie of Glasgow, and certane vtheris commissionaris for the maist pairt of the burrowis of this realme, vpoun the vther pairt, of the dait the [ ] day of Julij, the yeir of God j^m v^c four scoir ten yeiris, that was delyuerit to the saidis commissionaris of the burrowis be the

said Dauid Setoun of Parbroith, comptrollar, in name of our said soueran lord allanerlie, and of his maiesties awin proper money, the sowme of ane hundreth thowsand pundis vsuall money of this realme, quhairoff the pairt and portioun receavit be the commissionaris of the citie of Glasgow, in name of the communitie thairof, extendit to the sowme of four thowsand pundis, and the pairt and portioun receavit be the commissionaris of the said burght of Abirden, in name of the communitie thairof, extendit to the sowme of aucht thowsand pundis, for the quhilk sowme of aucht thowsand pundis the saidis commissionaris of the said burght of Aberden, for thame selffis and in name of the communitie theirof, hawing power of thame to that effect, band and oblegit thame and thair successouris, to content and pay to his maiesties comptrollar for the tyme, in his hienes name, the sowme of aucht hundreth pundis yeirlie, as for the proffit of the said sowme of aucht thowsand pundis; like as the commissionaris of the said citie of Glasgow for thame selffis, and in name of the communitie theirof, having powar of thame to that effect, band and obleist thame and thair successoris, to content and pay to his maiesties said comtrollar for the tyme, in his hienes name, the sowme of four hundreth pundis, as for the proffitt of the said sowme of four thousand pundis, sa lang as the same suld be kepit and retenit be thame; in the quhilk contract it is alsua provydit, that gif at any tyme thairefter it suld pleis his maiestie, with aduise of his comptrollar for the tyme, and lordis of his hienes secreit consall, to require deliverance of the principall sowmes aboue written, vpoun the premonitioun of yeir and day, then and in that caice the saidis prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie was oblegit to mak thankfull delyuerance theirof, and now his maiestie having ado with instant and reddie money, for provissioun to be maid agane the baptisme of the prince, his heines darrest sone, and for vtheris his maiesties vrgent and weychtie effairis, quhilk may nocht suffer delay: his maiestie, theirfoir, with aduise of his comptroller and lordis of secreit counsell folowing thay ar to say, Johne Lord Thirlestane, chancellar; Johne Earle of Montroiss; Sir Thomas Lyoun of Auldbar, knicht, thesaurar; Sir Robert Melvile of Murdocarnie, knicht, thesaurer deput; Walter, Priour of Blantyre; Sir Richard Cokburne, apperand of Clerkingtoun; Sir Dauid Setoun of Pairbroith, comptroller; Sir George Home of Spott; Alexander Hay of Eister Kennett, clerk of registre; Sir Johne Carmichaell of that ilk; Alexander Home of Northbervik, prouest of Edinburgh; Mr Dauid

5th October, 1594.

5th October, 1594.

Carnegie of Colluthy, hes burdinit the prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of the said citie of Glasgow, with the payment of the said principall sowme of four thousand pundis, and the prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of the said burgh of Abirden, with the payment of the soume of ane thousand pundis, quhilkis sowme the saidis prowest and baillies now present, for thame selffis, and in name and behalff and for releiff of the haill communitie therof, haue reallie and with effect payit and delyverit to the said Dauid Setoun of Parbroith, his maiesties comptrollar, in his hienes name, with aduise of the lordis of his secreit counsall, and that without any premonitioun preceding, the necessitie of the erand sua requiring, and theirfor our said soueran lord, with the speciall aduyse of his said comptrollar and lordis of his secreit consall befoir specifeit, grants that his hienes is thankfullie payit and weill satisfeit of the sowmes aboue writtin, and of the yeirlie proffit theirof, of all yeris and termes bypast, in quhilkis thay war obleist be vertew of the said contract, promitting for his hienes and his successoris, that thay sall newer more actioun, questioun, nor quarrell aganis the prouestis, baillies, counsall, and communitie of the saidis burrowis of Aberden and Glasgow now present, and thair successoris, for the sowmes aboue writtin, and yeirlie proffit theirof, be vertew of the said contract, or be quhatsumewer vther maner of way; and for the mair securitie, our said souerane lord, with aduise and consent forsaid, ordanis thir presentis to be registrat in the buikis of his secreit counsall, and lykwayes in the buikis of his counsall and sessioun, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, and to hawe the strenth of ane act and decreit of the lordis thairof; and be thir presentis, commandis and ordanis Mr. Dauid Makgill of Cranstounriddel, and Mr. Johne Skene, his hienes aduocattis, or ony of thame, to caus thir presentis be registrat in the saidis buikis of secreit counsall and sessioun, to the effect aboue wrytin; and last, our sourane lord, with aduise and consent forsaid, hes promittit and promittis on his kinglie word, that his hienes and his thre estaitis sall ratefie, approve, and renew this present exoneratioun and discharge in his nixt parliament, and therafter sa aft as salbe neidfull; in witnes of the quhilk thing, our said souerane lord, the lordis of his secreit counsall and comptrollar foirsaid, haue subscryvit thir presentis with thair handis, day, yeir, and place foirsaid. *Sic subscribitur*, James R. Cancellarius; Montrois; Tho. Thesaurarius; Sir Robert Melvill; R. Secretarius; Blantyre; Culluthy; A. Clerk Registre; Parbroeth, Comp-

trollar; Sir G. Home; Alexander Home Carmichaell. *Extractum de libro actorum secreti consilii*, S. D. N. *Regis per me Joannem Andro, clericum deputatum eiusdem sub meis signo et subscriptione manualibus*, sua it is subscrivit Joannes Andro. 5th October, 1594.

Followis his Maiesties missive, quhilk is written on the back. To our trayst freyndis the prouest, baillies, and consall of our burgh of Abirden: Traist freyndis, we greit you hartlie weill. This berar Robert Jowsie, our merchand, having furneist ws maist thankfullie in sic thingis as ar maist necessar at the lait actioun and solemnitie of the baptisme, we have assignit to him that sowme of ane thowsand pundis of our tochir, extant in your handis, of the sowme of aucht thowsand pundis committit theirin, quhairof sevin thousand pundis wes assignit and satisfeit to Thomas Achesoun, our maister cunzeour, for sum avancement of money maid be him at that tyme. The said Robert being to repair towardis you for suit of that sowme, we have thocht guid, besyd the assignatioun, to accompany him with this our lettre, eirnistlie requesting yow to mak him reddie and instant payment and delyuerie of that sowme of a thousand pundis, according to his assignatioun, and the discharge to be gevin yow theirupoun, and that ye failzie nocht to tak sic ordour with him in that erand, as ye did with Thomas Achesone, that he receave na delay as ye will do ws thankfull plesour and serwice: sua we commit you to God. From Halyrudhous, the xxiii. of September, 1594. *Sic subscribitur*, James R.

25th October, 1594.

The said day, comperit Johne Collysone, prouest, and presentit the acquittances after following, togidder with the licence and actis of secreit consall vnderwretin, and desyrit the same to be insert and registrat in the buikis of this present auditorie, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhilk desire the baillies thocht ressonabill, and ordanit the same to be insert and registrat to the effect foirsaid, of the quhilk the tenour followis: I, James Wynrame, agent for the burrowis, collectour appoyntit be his Maiestie of the taxatioun of ten thowsand pundis grantit be the burrowis of this realme, for furnesing of ane thousand men of weir to his hienes for ane moneth, grants me, be thir presentis, to have receavit be the prouest and baillies of the burght of Abirden, for thame selffis, and in name and behalff of the

25th October, 1593.

consall and communitie of the said burght, the sowme of aucht hundreth pundis vsuall money of this realme, for the said toune of Abirdenis pairt of the said taxatioun; and siclyk grantis me to have receavit fra the saidis prouest and baillies, for thame selffis and in name forsaid, the sowme of vther aucht hundreth pundis money aboue expremit, macking in the haill the sowme of sextene hundreth pundis for the said town of Abirdenis pairt, of vther ten thousand pundis to furneis the said men of wear for the secund moneth be delyuerance thairof, conforme to his maiesties command and directioun gevin to me as collectour of the said taxatioun, to mak payment of the said town of Abirdenis pairt thairof, to Johne Nesmyth, of the quhilk haill sowme of sextene hundreth pundis, I grant me weill content, satisfeit, and payit, and theirof, for me and my airis, executoris, and assignais, quytclames, exoneris, and discharges the said town of Abirdene and thair successoris for now and euer, be this my acquittance: subscrivit with my hand, at Abirdene, the tuentie-thre day of October, the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscore and fourtene yeiris, befoir thir witnessis, Dauid Mengzeis, younger, burges of Abirden, Mr. Thomas Mollisone, common clerk of the said burght, and Walter Robertsone his servitour. *Et sic subscribitur*, James Wynrame with my hand, Mr. Thomas Mollisone as witnes, Dauid Mengzeis witnes, Walter Robertsone witnes.

I, Johne Nesmyth, burges of Edinburght, grantis me be thir presentis to have receavit fra the prouest and baillies of Abirdene for thameselffis, and in name and behalf of the consall and communitie of the said burght, all and haill the sowme of twa thousand pundis vsuall money of this realme, to his Maiestie, for furnesing of a thousand men of wear to his hienes for tua monethis, and for a discharge grantit be his hienes to the said burgh of certan heidis specifeit in the actis of secreit consall maid theiranent, of the quhilk sowme I hauld me weill content and payit, and theirof quyt clames, exoneris, and dischargis the said toune of Abirdene and thair successouris for now and ever, be this acquittance, subscrivit with my hand, at Abirdene the xxiii day of October, the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscoir and fourtene yeiris befoir thir witnessis, Mr. Dauid Fowlis, secretar deput, Patrick Innes, servitour to the clerk of register, Mr. Alex$^{r.}$ Burnett, servitour to my Lord Lyndsay, Walter Robertsone, notar publict, and Archibald Hog: *Sic subscribitur*, Johne Nesmyth, with my

hand, D. Fowlis, witnes, Patrick Innes, witnes, Archibald Hog, witnes, Walter Robertsone, witnes. 25th October 1594.

Rex. We, be the tenour heirof, gevis and grantis our licence to the prouest, baillies, consell, and communitie, and haill inhabitantis of our burght of Abirdene and fredome theirof, to remaine and byd at hame fra our present oist and armie, convenit at our said burght of Abirdene, and appoyntit to pas fordwart with ws to the north pairtis of our realme, without ony pane, cryme, skayth, or danger, to be incurrit be thame thairthrow in their personis, landis, guidis, or geir, nochtwithstanding quhatsumevir our actis or proclamationis maid or to be maid in the contrar, quhairanent, and all panis contenit thairintill, we dispence be thir presentis: Gevin vnder our signet, and subscrivit with our hand, at Abirdene, the xxiii. day of October, and of our regne the xxviii. yeir, 1594. *Sic subscribitur*, James R., cancellarius.

Apud Aberden vigesimo tertio die mensis Octobris, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo quarto: The quhilk day, the kingis maiestie, with aduise of the lordis of his secreit consall, hes decernit and declairit, and be thir presentis decernis and declaris, the prouest, baillies, consall, communitie, and inhabitantis of the burght of Abirdene, to be frie, innocent, and navayis accusable be thame selffis nor thair cautionaris, criminallie nor ciuillie, for nocht apprehending and presenting befoir his Maiestie and lordis of his secreit consall of Maister James Gordone, father bruther to George, sumtyme Erle of Huntlye, after his landing at the raid and hevin of Abirdene in the moneth of Julij last bypast, nor yit for latting to libertie of certain strangeris quhilkis arryvit and landit with him the same tyme, nather sall the saidis prouest, baillies, and vtheris forsaidis, be querrellit, accusit, nor perseivit be ony maner of vay for thair alledgit ressett and intercommuning with any of his hienes declairit traitouris, rebellious and vnnaturall subiectis, tresonable practizeris aganis the estait of the treu religioun, his hienes persone, crown, and libertie of this cuntrie, nor yit with ony denuncit, and at the horne for the murther and slauchter of vmquhill James Erle of Murray, at ony tyme bygane preceding the dait heirof; bot exonerit, lyk as his Maiestie with aduise of the saidis lordis, exoneris thame and thair saidis cautionaris of all pane, cryme, and danger, quhilkis thay may incur

25th October, 1594.

thairthrow for euer: lyk as his hienes renuncis and dischargis all actioun quhilk his hienes hed hes or may move aganis thame, for the caussis foirsaid for euer, discharging be thir presentis his Maiesties justice, justice clerk, thesaurar, aduocattis, and all vtheris his hienes officieris and ministeris of his lawis, of all calling, accusing, vnlawing or any wayis proceding aganis the saidis prouest, baillies, consall, and vtheris aboue writtin, for the caussis forsaidis, poynding, trubling, or intrometting with thame, thair landis, guidis, and geir, theirfor and of their offices in that pairt. *Extractum de libro actorum secreti consilii* S.D.N. *regis per me Joannem Andro, clericum deputatum eiusdem sub meis signo et subscriptione manualibus: Sic subscribitur*, Joannes Andro.

Apud Abirden, vigesimo tertio die mensis Octobris, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo quarto. Forsamekill as the prouest, baillies, consall, and commonitie of Abirdene, hes at the kingis maiesties speciall sute and eirnist desyre lent and delyverit presentlie to his hienes servitour, twentie stand weycht of poulder, togidder with certain mattockis, gavellokis, and vtheris warklomes and materiallis, for demolischeing and casting doun of houssis and fortalices, valuit and estimat in the haill to the sowme of fyve hundereth fourtie aucht pundis, sex schillingis, aucht penneis, money of this realme, quhilk quantitie of pulder his maiestie and consall promittis be thir presentis to caus delyuer agane to the saidis prouest and baillies, and vtheris forsaidis, of the first and reddiest of his hienes pulder, immediatlie after the repairing in the pairtis of a boit quhairin the same is contenit, luked for to arryve sa sone as wynd and wadder may serve theirto; like as his maiestie sall caus restitutioun and delyuerance be alsua maid agane of the saidis warklomes and materiallis, quhow sone the saidis houssis beis demolischit and cassin doun theirwith; and in caice of not delyuerie of the said poulder, work lomes, and materiallis, or ony pairt theirof, in name and at the tymes forsaidis, than and in that caice his hienes sall caus payment be maid of the availe and pryces theirof forsaidis, to the saidis prouest and baillies, or thair successoris, sa sune after the expyring of the same tyme as convenientlie may be, or of samekle theirof as sall nocht be delyuerit. *Extractum de libro actorum secreti consilii* S. D. N. *Regis per me Joannem Andro, clericum deputatum eiusdem sub meis signo et subscriptione manualibus. Sic subscribitur*, Joannes Andro.

15th November, 1594.

15th Nov., 1594.

Item, the grass of the commoun Linkis with Futties Linkis, Castelhill, and Hedonishill, was sett after publict rowping to George Elphingstoun, saidler, for the soume of ten poundis, fra the day and dait heirof, quhilk salbe his entrie theironto, quhill the xxv. day of November nixt to cum, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and fyftene yeris, kepand the eird and skruiff theirof on delvit or cassin vp : Johne Sanderis become cautioun for payment thairof to the thesaurar, and the said George actit him to releve his said cautionar.

Item, the cheppell on the Castellhill, to wit the bodie theirof, and the grayte loft of the samen allanerlie, being rowpit, was sett to Alexander Ewyn, burges of the said burght, for the soume of four pundis, fra the day and dait heirof, quhill the xxv. day of November, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and fyftene yeris, quha fand Johne Layng cautionar for payment thairof to the thesaurer, and he obleist him to releve his cautioner.

The said day, it was procedit to the rowping of the gras of the Locht, grass of the salt Insches, and of the birne irnis and stampis, and efter publict rowping, the soume of twentie pundis, threttene s., four penneis being offerit be Alexander Ewyn, deane of gild, in name of the town, be uertew of his office, for the said grass of the Locht, and the soume of ten merkis being offerit be him for the grass of the salt Insches, and fyftie tua merkis for the saidis birne irnes and stampis, and nane vtheris offering for the samen, theirfor the samen was sett to the said Alexander, as deane of gild, to be sett be him to tenentis for payment of the saidis sowmes for the weill of the town or vtherwayis occupeit be him selff, quhairanent he sall be comptabill to the town in his comptis.

Item, thairefter it was procedit to the rouping of the toll custumes of the said burght, accidentis and casualiteis theirto belonging, and efter lang and publict rowping, dyvers persones offering theirfor, and at last the sowme of aucht scoir and tuelff markis being offerit for the same be Alexander Ewyn, burges of the said burght, and nane exceding his said offer, the said toll custume, with the casualities and deuties theroff, was sett to the said Alexander for the said soume, fra the feist of Witsonday furtht nixt to cum, quhilk salbe his entrie theirvnto, to the feist of Wit-

15th Nov., 1594. sonday nixt thaireftir, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and sixtene yeris, quha fand Johne Layng cautionar for payment of the foirsaid sowme to the thesaurar of this burght, and he obleist him to releve the said cautionar.

Item, the halydayes fische and Sanct Nicolas mett war thaireftir rowpit, and eftir publict rouping, the soume of thrie scoir and fourtene merkis being offerit theirfoir be Alexander Mollisone, and nane surmonting him in offer, the same was sett to the said Alexander, with the deuties and accidentis belanging theirto, fra the day and dait heirof to the tuentie fyft day of November, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir and fyftene yeris, for the said sowme, quha fand George Forbes cautioun for payment thairof to the maister of kirkwark, and he obleist him to releve his said cautionar.

13*th December*, 1594.

The said day, the haill toun being lauchfullie warnit to this day be the hand bell passand throw the haill rowis of the toun, quhairupoun the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill body of the toun, electit, nominat, and chesit Dauid Cargill, Alexander Crukschank, William Dun, Johne Layng, Alexander Burnett, Alex. and Stevin Baxter, and Alexander Patersone, tailzeour, taxtaris and stentaris, to stent vpon the haill inhabitantis of the said burght, baith frie and onfrie, the soumes particularlie vnder wretin; that is to say, the sowme of tua hundreth and sex pundis to be gevin to the rycht nobill and prepotent Lord Ludouick, Duke of Lennox, Erle Dernley, Lord Torboltoun, Obigny, and Methven, &c., lieutenant to his Maiestie within the north pairtis of this realme, to ratefie and approve the townis exemptioun gevin to thame be his Maiestie, for all raidis, oistis, and armies, and fra passing vpon assises, &c., and for the licence gevin be the said lieutenant to the towne to remane and abyd at hame fra the present raid, and oist convenit at this burght, and appoyntit to pas fordward with him to Elgyne and vtheris pairtis benorth the same; and lykewayis the soume of ane hundreth and aucht pundis, for payment of the heff tune of wyne, gevin in propyne to his maiestie at his last being in this towne; as siclyke the soume of ane hundreth merkis, for payment of Maister Peter Blakburne, minister, of his ordinar stipend for the Wit-

sonday and Mertimes termes last bypast, four scoir fourtene yeris, togidder with the soume of tua hundreth pundis for sustentatioun of the purell of the toun, sa mony as ar in catalog appoyntit be the consall and baith the sessionis, to be sustenit vpoun the townis chargis as purell borne and bred within the samen, to hauld thame aff the streittis and onbeggit at durris and yettis, according to the exampill of vther reformit townis within this realme, and for purging of the town of straing, idell, and extranear beggeris, quhilkis taxtaris compeiring in judgement, war solemnitlie sworne to stent the saidis soumes, quhilkis extendis in the haill to the soume of [ ] vpoun the haill inhabitantis of this toun, baith frie and onfrie, ilk man according to his habilitie and substance, conforme to their knawledge. 13th Dec., 1594

Eodem die.

The said day, Johne Collysone, prowest, presentit in judgement the licence grantit be Lodouick, Duke of Lennox, &c., lieutenant in the north pairtis of this realme, to the town of Abirden, to remaine at hame fra the present raid, quhilk was ordanit to be registrat, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour follows: We, Lodouick, Duke of Lennox, Erll Dernley, Lord Torboltoun, Obigny, and Methven, &c. lieutenant to his maiestie within the north pairtis of this realme, with aduise and consent of our consall, be the tenour heirof gevis and grantis licence to the prouest, baillies, consall, commonitie, and inhabitantis of the burght of Abirdene, that scottis, lottis, watchis, walkis, and wardis within the samen, als weill to thame that hes landis and possessionis to landwart, as to any vther inhabitant of the same, to remane and abyd at hame fra our present raid, oist, and armie, convenit and assemblit at the said burght of Abirdene, and appoyntit to pas forwart with ws thairfrae towardis Elgyne, and vtheris pairtis be north the same, without ony pane, cryme, skayth, or danger to be incurrit be thame theirthrow, in their persones, landis, guidis, or geir, nochtwithstanding quhatsumeuer our actis, statutis, or proclamationis maid or to be maid in the contrar, quhairanent, and all panis contenit theirintill we dispence be thir presentis, and that inrespect of the exemptioun grantit to thame be his hienes, quhilk we ratefie and approvis be thir presentis to be guid and effectuall, and for vther ressonabill caussis and considerationns moveing ws. Gevin vnder our signet, and subscrivit with our hand at Abirden, the threttene day of December, 1594 yeris.

13th Dec., 1594.

Sic subscribitur, Lennox, Sir Robert Melvill, Carmichaell, Donypace, younger.

10*th February*, 1594.

The said day, Lodouick, Duke of Lennox, Erle Dernly, Lord Torboltoun, Obigny, and Methven, &c., lieutenant and justice to his maiestie owir the north pairtis of this realme, was creat and maid burges of this burght, and was sworne and gawe his ayth solemnitlie in maner following: In the first, protestit befoir God, and befoir my lord prouest and baillies, that he professit and avowit with his hart the trew religioun, quhilk at the present is publictlie preatchit within this realme, and authorezit within the same be the lawis and actis of parliament, and suld abyd therat and defend the same to his lyvis end, forsaking the Romane religioun callit papystrie; that he suld be leill and trew to our Souerane Lord the Kingis Maiestie and his successouris, to this burght of Abirden, prouest, baillies, and inhabitantis therof; that he suld manteane and fortifie the liberties and previlegis of this burght, and suld be a freynd theirto in all their actionis and caussis honest and lefall; suld vsurp nor purcheis na lordschip contrar the fredome of the samen; and finallie, suld do nor attempt nathing hurtfull to the liberties and commoun weill of this burght, so help him God, and be God himselff.

The said day, Sir Robert Melvill of Murdocarny, knycht, thesaurar deput to his Maiestie; Sir Dauid Meldrum of Segye, knicht; Dauid Moysie, secretar deput to his Maiestie; James Carmichaell, sone to Sir Johne Carmichaell of that Ilk, knicht; William Carmichaell of Rollintriecroce; Robert Douglas, sone to vmquhill [ ] Douglas of Mayns; Mr. William Ruthven; Mr. Henrie Keir; Mr. Thomas Levingstoun; Mr. Alex^{r}. Craig; William Orum; Johne Dauidsoun; Thomas Andersone, all domestik servitouris to my Lord Duke; James Bosuall and Johne Dun, servitouris to the said Sir Robert Melvill; Willeam Lauder; Stevin Bruntsedell; Johne Cairnis of Cultis; Willeam Levingstoune, servitour to the Laird of Dunypace; Robert Lauder and Gilbert Johnestoun, violar, war creat and maid burgessis of this burght, with the said Lodouick, Duke of Lennox, quha gaif thair aythis in maner aboue writtin; siclyk, Maister Willeam Reid was creat burges of gild of this burght, gratis, and at the request of the said Duke of Lennox.

14*th February*, 1594.

14th Feb., 1594.

The said day, comperit Johne Collesone, prouest, and presentit the remissioun and discharge underwritten, and desyrit the same to be insert and registrat in the baillie court buikis of this burgh, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhilk was ordanit to be registrat to the effect foirsaid, quhairof the tenour followis: Ws, Ludouick, Duke of Lennox, Erle Dernley, Lord Torbolton, Obigny, and Methven, &c., lieutenant and justice to his maiestie owir the north pairtis of this realme, be the tenour heirof, for certan reasonabill caussis and considerationis moving ws, hes remittit and dischargit, and be thir our lettres, remittis and dischargis all actioun criminall or civill, quhilkis we or ony utheris in our name, had, hes, or ony vayis may have, or mowe aganis the prouest, bailleis, consall, communitie, and inhabitantis of the burght of Abirdene and fredome theirof, for the crymes folowing, to vit, transporting of gold and syluere with all maner of forbidin guidis out of the cuntrie, forstalling and regratting of mercattis, committing of usurie, slauchter of blakfische, adulterie, incest, vitchcraft, wsing of fals mesouris and weychtis, and of all uther capitall crymes that can be laid to thair charge, (tresone onlie except), befoir the dait heirof, and all actioun and cryme that may folow theirupoun, or be imput to thame or ony of thame thairthrow for evir: Gevin wnder our signet, and subscryvit with our hand, at Abirden, the tuelff day of Februar, 1594'yeiris. *Sic subscribitur*, Lenox, Sir Robert Melvill.

28*th February*, 1594.

The said day, Robert Scherar, Agnes Lyndsay, and Margrat Patersone, war convict for transgressing of the statutes of this burght maid on wyne, in selling of thair wyne at ten s. the poynt, thay being ordanit be the said statut to sell the same for aucht s. the poynt, and this for the secund conviction, quhairfor thay, and ilkane of thame, war ordanit to be poyndit for fyve pundis of vnlaw, conforme to the ordinance of the statut.

14*th March*, 1594.

The said day, comperit judiciallie George Strathauchin, burges of Abirdene, and presentit the letter wnderwrittin, subscrywit be his majestie, comanding maisteris, skipperis, awnaris, and marineris of quhatsumevir schippis or weschellis within this realme, to receawe in thair saidis

14th March, 1594.

schippis or weschellis, George, sumtyme Erle of Huntlye, and Francis, sumtyme Erl of Erroll, with thair servandis, and to transport thame furth of this realme as the said letter beris, and desyrit the same to be insert and registrat in the baillie court buikis of the said burght, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhilk desyre the bailleis thocht ressonabill, and ordanit the samen letter to be registrat to the effect foirsaid, quhairof the tenour folowis: Rex. Maisteris, skipperis, awneris, and marineris of quhatsumevir schippis or weschellis within this realme, it is our will, and we command you, that upon the sicht heirof, ye receave in your saidis schippis, George, sumtyme Erll of Huntlye, and Francis, sumtyme Erll of Erroll, with thair servandis, and transport thame to quhatsumevir pairtis or portis beyond sey, thay sall think expedient, quhairthrow we will and declairis that ye nor nane of you sall incur any cryme, pane, or danger in your persones, landis, or gudis, be ony maner of way in tyme cuming, nochtwithstanding of quhatsumeuer our actis, statutis, or proclamationis maid or to be maid in the contrar, anent the quhilkis, and panis contenit thairin, we dispence be thir presentis, as ye and ilk ane of ye will ansuir to ws upon your obedience, quhairanent this our lettre sall be your sufficient warrand. Subscrivit with our hand at Halyruid Hous, the xx. day of Februar, 1594. *Sic subscribitur*, James R.

15*th April*, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, with consent of George Elphingstoun, saidler, dekyn of the hammermen, grantit ane licence and oursicht to Willeam Gardyne, skynner, to work within the burght, and vse his said craft and occupatioun quhill Witsonday, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir seuentene yeiris, quhill thay have a pruiff of his warkmanschip and worthines, and that be reasone of the necessitie of the said craft within this burght.

Eodem die.

The said day, the consall ordanit Alex^{r}. Ewyn, dean of gild, to mak a pair of joggis, and fessin the same to the jebat, for putting thairin of commoun flyteris and sklanderous persones, and the expensis to be maid be the dean of gild theirvpoun, to be allowit to him in his comptis.

18*th April*, 1595.

The said day, comperit in presence of the prouest, baillies, and consall,

Thomas Borthik, and grantit and confessit that he had trublit the toun vpoun the sext day of this instant, vnder silence of nicht, in cumming to the howse of Jonet Howysone, relict of vmquhile Alex^r^· Blakhall, serching the same for the said Jonett, and in cumming to Patrick Donaldsones houss and yett at midnicht, and trubling of him be stricking at his yett, and geving him injurious language, and schuting of pistollis within his close, and that mair ignorantlie nor wilfullie, offending thairby the toun, magistrattis, and nichtbouris, and speking injuriouslie of the magistrattis, and thairfor cravit the magistrattis pardon and forgifnes, referring him in thair will thairfor, and promesing neuer to attempt nor doe the lyk in tyme cumming, quhairfor the consall remittit to him his said offence. 18th April, 1595.

15*th May*, 1595.

The said day, Robert Watsone and Robert Andersone war accusit in judgement for trubling of the toune in drawing of sword and quhingeris ilk ane of thame to vtheris, and thairwith persewing ather of thame the wther on the schoir of this burght; compeirit the saidis persones and denyit the same, quhilk wes put to the decisioun and knawlege of the assise, chosin, sworne, and admittit in judgement, quhilk assise being furth of court removit and inclusit within the consalhous, efter detfull tryell and examinatioun had be thame of the accusatioun aboue writin, entering in court, thay all in ane voice, be the mouth of Dauid Cargill, chancellar, convictit the saidis Robert Watson and Robert Andersone, for trubling of the toun be drawing of wappynnis, ilk ane of thame to vtheris, and fand the first provocatioun and injurie be word, to be in the said Robert Watson, and the fyrst vapyn, to vit ane quhynger, to be drawen be the said Robert Andersone; and Alex^r^· Burnett becom souertie and cautioun actit for Robert Watsone for the modificatioun of his vnlaw, and that the toun sall nocht be trublit in tyme cuming be him with the said Robert Andersone, utherwayes nor be ordour of law, vnder the pane of ane hundreth pundis; and Thomas Forbes, younger, becom actit souertie and cautioun for the said Robert Andersone, for payment of his vnlaw according to the modificatioun of the consall, and that the toun sall nocht be trublit be him in tyme cumming, vnder the said pane of ane hundreth pundis; and the saidis Robert Watsone and Robert Anderson actit thame to releive thair saidis souerties.

16th May, 1595.

16th May, 1595.

The said day, Alex^{r}· Patersone, tailzeour, was convict be the depositions of dyuers famouss witnessis, for his vnnaturall misbehaviour and dealing towards James Donaldsone, merchant burges of this burgh, be convening of the haill craft of the tailzeouris, and persuading and desyring thame nocht to by any kynd of merchandise fra the said James, be ressone that the said James delatit the said Alex^{r}·, as he alledgit, to the dean of gild, for handling with foran waris, quhairopon the said Alex^{r}· was convict.

28th May, 1595.

The said day, the consall, vpon the supplicatioun of Robert Fergushill, burgeis of Irwing, pilleit and herreit be the Ireland men, ordanit the dean of gild to answer him of the sowme of twentie schillingis to hes support, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

2nd June, 1595.

The said day, the prouest and baillies, with ane gryt pairt of the consell, vpon the complaynt of Maister Richard Irwing, burges of the said burght, heretabill possessour of the croft callit the Gallowhill croft, lyand in the north territory of the croftis of the samen, betuixt the landis of Sanct Peteris hospitall on the north, the seik folkis myre at the south, the kingis commoun gett passand betuixt the newtoun of Abirden and the auldtoun therof in the wast, and certane marche stanes crocit on the eist, againis James Leslye elder, burges of the same burght, pretendit present occupear of the croft callit the seik folkis croft, mercheand contigue with the said Maister Richardis croft, for the wrangous labouring, teilling, and occupeing of ane pairt of the said Maister Richardis croft within the proper boundis and marchis theirof, past to the ground of the saidis croftis, and their in presence of the said James and Maister Richard, tuik in the declaratioun and depositionis of dyvers auld ancient witnessis that know best the marchis of the saidis croftis, and had laborit and occupeit the said Gallowhill croft of a lang tyme sensyne, quha were admittit be the saidis pairties and sworne solemnitlie, with quhais depositionis, and with the saidis Maister Richardis originall infeftment and chartour of the said Gallowhill croft, the saidis prouest, baillies, and consall being ryplie advysit, boundit and marchit the said Gallowhill croft, fra the said croft callit the seik folkis croft, as followis, viz.: Begynnand at ane gryt stane

this day sett doun on the north syid of the said seik folkis myre, thairfra ascendand lineallie north or thairby to ane laich eirdfast stane bayth crocit this day, and theirfra north to ane ardfast stane in the grene balk, crocit as said is. 2nd June, 1595.

30th June, 1595.

The said day, the haill town being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the toun, quhairvpon the berar mayd fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill body of the toun, votit, consentit, and agreit, that the toun and landis of Capristoun, perteining to Alex^r^. Forbes, burges of this burght, sall be bocht fra him with the reddiest of the compositionis and few gressumis restand yit on payit be the fewaris of the landis of the fredome, for thair new infeftmentis maid to thame, with marchis of propertie, vpon the saidis fewaris submissions, becaus the saidis landis of Capristoun lyis neir this burght, merchand contigue with the fredome thereof, and war content that the prouest, baillies, and consall, suld agrie with the said Alexander Forbes for the samen, and tak securitie and infeftment theirof to the prouest, baillies, consall, and commonitie of this burght, and to thair successoris, to remane with this burght in all tyme cumming, heritablie, as a pairt of the patrimonie of the samen, and that thay by the samen fra the said Alexander with sic richt and titill as he hes to the teynd schaves and viccarage theirof.

2nd July, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, vpon supplicatioun of M^r^. Thomas Leslye, burges of this burght, and schiref deput of Abirdene, vnder Johnne Leslye of Balquhyne, scherif, crauing the tounis pairt of the vnlawis of sic as sall happin to be lawfullie convict for slaying of blak or reid fische in forbiddin tyme, aganis the actis of parliament, and he to sett cautioun to the saidis prouest, baillies, and consall, to satisfie his Maiesties pairt of the saidis vnlawis to his great thesaurer and lordis of cheker, and to releive the prouest, baillies, consall, and communitie of Abirdene of the samen, at the handis of his Maiesties great thesaurer and checker, quhairwith thay being ryplie and at lenth aduysit, finding that the saidis actis of parliament hes not tane thair awin effect and execution aganis the contravenaris, be reasoune of the oursicht and

2nd July, 1595.

negligence in tyme bygane of the magistrattis of this burght, and scherif, to quhom power is granted be the saidis actis of parliament for haulding of justice courtis vpon slayeris of blak or reid fische in forbidden tyme, distroyeris of smoltis, and frey of salmound, and considdering lykwayis that the said ouersicht and negligence hes bred no litill discommoditie, hurt, and preiudice to the salmound fischingis of this burght, and consequentlie to the commoun weill theirof, theirfor grantit to the said Mr. Thomas, the tounis pairt of the saidis vnlawis, sic as may fall to the same be the said actis of parliament, and gawe the same to him for his laboris, and panis to be takin be him in haulding of the said justice courtis, and for satisfeing of the officieris to be send and direct for summounding of all persones contravenaris of the saidis actis, quhom the said Mr. Thomas sall be hauldin to satisfie and releif the toun of all expenssis to be maid theiron, with this provisioun, that in euery court to be hauldin thair sall sitt with the said Mr. Thomas ane of the baillies of this burght, sic as sall be appoynted to that effect, to sie justice ministrat vpon all contravenaris, and that the towns clerk be lykvayis clerk of the said justice courtis, and that the said Mr. Thomas Leslye sall prosequut the haulding of justice courtis, and ministrat justice vpon thame, according to the commissioun sett doun in the saidis actis of parliament, betuixt and lettermariday nixt cumis, and thir presentis to indure onlie quhill the tent of September *inclusiue*, prouyding cautioun be sett be the said Mr. Thomas actit in the townis buikis, to releiwe the prouest, baillies, consall, and communitie of this burght of his Maiesties pairt of the vnlawis of the saidis persones that hapins to be convict at the handis of his Maiestie, thesaurer, and checker.

3*rd July*, 1595.

The said day, anent the complaynt gevin in aganis the tennantis, maillaris, and occupearis of the salmound fischingis of Dee and Doyne, hauldin of this burght in few ferme, quha tackis the same in maling for payment of salmound fische to the awnaris, maisteris, and heretabill proprietaris theirof, in quhais hurt and defraud anent the payment of thair maill, the said tennentis, occupearis, maillaris, and tacksmen, with the first and reddiest of the salmound fische takin in the saidis fewaris and maisteris watteris, payit their alledgit contractit dett in the begyning of the yeir, at the leist betuixt the feist of Witsonday and Lambes, to

merchandis and byeris of salmound deferring the payment of thair maill and deutie to the lettermariday, alledging the same to be the terme of payment theirof, theirfor desyring ordour to be tackin theranent, quhairthrow the saidis awnaris, maisteris, and proprietaris of the saidis fischingis, suld be payit of the maill fische promeist to thame be thair saidis tennentis and maleris first, and befoir the saidis maleris and tenentis pay the salmound fische alledgit sauld be thame obefoir to vtheris merchandis, as in the said complaynt at mair lenth wes contenit, quhairwith the bailleis being aduysit, finding the samen a mater of consequence that hes nocht occurrit heirtofoir, and for setting doun of ane ordour to be obseruit heirefter anent the payment of maill fische, to be payit be the tenentis, occupearis, and malaris of the salmound fischingis, to the awnaris, maisteris, and fewaris theirof, and eschewing of the said fraud and hurt vsit be the saidis maleris in maner befoir specifeit, remittit the said mater to the knawledge and determinatioun of the assise aboue writtin, chosin, sworne, and admittit in judgement, as men of best judgement and vnderstanding, electit furth amangis the haill nychtbouris of this burght, quha out of court removit, and inclusit within the counsalhous, efter lang reasoning and guid deliberatioun, entering agane in court, fand, pronuncit, and delyuerit all in ane voce but contradictioun, be the mouth of the said Alexander Cullen, chancellar of the assise, sumtyme prouest of this burght, that the awnaris, proprietaris, and fewaris of the said salmound fischingis salbe payit in all tyme cumming of thair maill salmound fische, be thair maleris, tenentis, and occupearis of thair saidis fischingis, of the first and reddiest of the salmound fischis pakkit out be the saidis maleris and tenentis, and that na maler nor tenent sall pay any salmound fysche sauld be him to any merchand in tyme cumming, quhill the maister, awnar, and setter to him of the said fisching be first payet of his maill fysche, except the said maler or tenent haue his maister or awnaris speciall consent theirto; and gif it sal happin ane persone quha is fewar and heretabill proprietor of ane fisching, to have ane vther fisching in mailling of ane vther fewar, the said mailler at his first packing sall deuyd the same fische packit be him equallie betuixt him and the other fewar, his maister, quhill he be satisfeit of his maill fische; to the quhilk declaratioun aboue writin, of the said assiss, the baillies forsaidis interponit thair authoritie, and ordanit the same to be obseruit in all tyme cumming as ane law and ordinance, and for the better keping therof

3d July, 1595.

3rd July, 1595.

statut and deuysit, that na couper, packer of salmound fische within this burght, sall pack any salmound fische on the nicht to ony mailler, or yit at any vther tyme, quhill he mak the awnar of the fisching aduerteist, to the effect he be nocht defraudit of his maill fische.

9th July, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall deuysit and ordanit Alexander Ewyn, dean of gild, to mend and repair the stepill of the Gray Freir Kirk, and to mak the same watterthicht, as also to caus mend and rewll the knok within the said Gray Freiris Kirk; as siclyk, to caus poynt the sam kirk, and mak the same watterthicht, with the reddiest of the patrimonie and accidentis belonging to this burght, presantlie in his handis, and quhat expenssis he mackis tharwpoun, efter the productioun of his compt theranent to the consall, to be allowit to him in his comptis.

12th July, 1595.

The said day, the prouest and baillies said that thair vas wrang done the nicht immediatlie bygane, in erecting and bigging vp of ane little faill hous on the north syd of the kirk yard, vnder silence of nicht, quhilk obefoir was demolischit be vertew of ane act and ordinance of consall, and theirfor after thay had past and visit the said hous, ordanit the same to be of new agane demolescht and cassin doun, and instantlie causit Dauid Robertsone and Andro Hay, tua of the ordiner officieris tak doun certane of the dovettis therof, and sum of the faill of the wallis therof, for obedience to this present ordinance, and the same to be cassin doun and hauldin doun in all tyme cumming, as biggit on the townis commountie sett out in few to Dauid Andersone.

Eodem die.

The said day, Andro Forbes, merchand, being accusit for bigging and erecting of ane litile hous on the north syd of the kirk yard dyk, yisternicht vnder silence of nicht, the samenhous being demoleschit obefoir, be vertew of ane ordinance of the consall, compeirit the said Andro and confessit that he causit big the same, and gawe command to warkmen to that effect, quhairfor he was convict and put in amerciament of court to forbeir, &c.; and lykvayis, the said Andro being accusit for deforcing, staying, and stopping of Thomas Kellye and Andro Hay, officieris, and

the warkmen, to cast doun that day efternone the said litile hous, quhilk was biggit and erectit yisternicht be the said Andro, denyit the same, quhairvpoun the prouest and baillies having takin tryell and probatioun thairanent, fand that the said Andro had deforcit, stoppit, and stayit the saidis officieris and warkmen with thame, in dimolisching of the said hous this day efternone, quhairfor the said Andro was convict and put in amerciament of court. 12th July 1595.

16th July, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall for the guid favour schawin to this burght, and kythit be ane nobill lord, Johne Lord Forbes, knawin to thame, and for the said lordis attending and avayting on the keping of the watteris of Dee and Doyne fra slayeris of blak fische in forbidden tyme, as the said lordis predicessoris did obefoir to this burght, and the lyke promesit to be done be himselff, ordanit the deane of gild to employ vpon deallis and vther materiallis, the soume of ane hundreth merkis money, to be gevin to the said lord as ane rememberance of the toun, for helping of his wark and ludging quhilk he is presentlie begun to big, quhilk salbe allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

6th August, 1595.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and consall ordanis Dauid Cargill, thesaurar, to furneis bread and wyne to the communioun of the Lordis tabill, quhilk is to be administrat, God willing, on Sonday nixt, in sic quantitie as sall serve the turne, and quhat he debursis thervpon ordanis the same to be allowit to him in his comptis.

27th August, 1595.

The said day, the consall ordanit Dauid Cargill, thesaurer, to deburss sevin pundis for letteris of suspensioun, to suspend the letteris and chargis quhairwitht the prouest and bailleis ar chargeit to tak the Lord Forbes, togidder with ane croune of the sone to the prouest, debursit be him obefoir in the townis effaris, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

10th September, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, vpon the supplicatioun of tua puir Dense men, marineris schipbrockin, ordanit Alexander Ewyn,

10th Sept., 1595. dean of gild, to answer thame of the soume of aucht pundis money for thair support, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis, and lykvayes ordanit the said dean of gild to pay Marioun Rolland, spous to Robert Scherar, four pundis sex s. viii. d. for the wyne gevin to the commissar and aduocattis with him, at command of the consall, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and consall ordanit Alexander Ewyn, dean of gild, to by to Alexander Tailyeour, alias Checkum, commoun poist of this town, ane garment and luifray of blew, with the townis armes on his left arme, and the expenssis to be maid be the said dean of gild, and that for this yeir allanerlie, and for na vther yeir, quhilk soume salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

The said day, the counsell ordanit the soume of ten merkis to be payit to James Tod, redar, of augmentatioun, becaus the yeir is evill, and that of the first vnlaw that salbe ingottin be the dean of gild, and that for this yeir allanerlie, and for na vther yeir, quhilk sowme salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

17*th September*, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanit the sowme of twentie poundis to be gevin for the help and support of the repairing of Sanct Macharis kirk of Auld Abirdene, of the reddiest of the tuentie-four pundis quhilk sall be gottin fra Willeam Mackartis compositioun of burgeschip, ordanit this day to be maid burges of gild of this burght, for payment of the said sowme.

Eodem die.

The said day, it was thocht meitt and expedient be the prouest, baillies, and consall, that preserving and keping of the meall that cummis to the mercatt of this burght to be sauld, fra rayn and wynd, and to the effect the same may be the mair commodiouslie mett without skayth, als weill to the sellaris as to the byeris, that thair be commoun hallis maid of tymber coverit aboue with deallis, and opening on bayth sydis, vpon the eist end of the tolbuyth, fra the north cheik of the tolbuyth dur direct eist or theirby, toward the place quhair the malt mercatt standis, and

that be the aduyse of Dauid Andersone, Dauid Cargill, and sic vtheris of the consall as sall be adionit to thame, vpon the townis expenssis be the dean of gild or thessaurer, and the expenssis to be debursit be thame theiron to be allowit to thame in thair comptis, and of ilk lead or seck of meill sic ane deutie to be exactit of the awner theirof, as sall be deuysit heirefter be the consall, and the saidis hallis to be rowpit yeirlie. 17th Sept., 1595.

12*th November*, 1595.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanit Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to gif to Gilbert Bairnis, sacristar, kepar of thair paroche kirk, ane gown of self blak, as ane garment maist convenient for his office, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said dean of gild theirupon.

17*th November*, 1595.

The said day, the haill toune being lauchtfullie warnit to this day be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid fayth, and convening, for the maist pairt, representand the haill bodye of the toun, it wes exponit be Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, that in respect hidderto throcht many impedimentis, competent congregationis culd nocht be had within this burght, be devisioun theirof, to the effect that the pastouris of the samen, distinctlie micht have bene burdenit with particular flockis, and sua the caus of the Gospell and the edifeing of euerie inhabitant hes bene grytumlie henderit, to the gryt greiff of the godlie ; for thir caussis, the auld and new sessionis, and the ministrie, yisterday convenit and assemblit in the sessioun hous, and the magistrattis, auld and new counsallis of the burght, convenit this day in the consal hous, considdering that wther weill reformit townis and congregationis of this realme had deuydit thair towne in dyvers congregationis, and theirfor seing the daylie incres of pepill of this burght, and that it is nocht possibill that ather thay may be particularlie edifeit, or the pastouris may knaw quhat progres they mak in knawlege, nor qwhow in lyff and conversation euerie ane practezis the doctrine of the word ; and that the comfort of the seik and releiff of the puire may be deulie procurit in tyme cuming, has thocht expedient that this toun be deuydit in four seuerall competent congregationis, folowing the exampill of vther weill constitut and governit commoun weillis : quhilk wark tending sa

17th Nov., 1595.

fair to Goddis glory, and to the veill and honour of this burght, culd nocht be effectuatit without the consent of the inhabitantis, and theirfor the said Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, inquyrit of the haill toun, convenit as said is, giff thay wald assent to the conclusioun and ordinance of the auld and new consallis, sessionis, and ministrie forsaid, and euerie mannis voit being cravit efter the ordour of the suitt roll, ilk man voting be him selff, thay with vniuersall consent agreit that four congregationis, four seuerall pastouris, kirkis, and sessionis, sall be within this burght in tyme cuming, ane of the saidis ministeris to be socht out and prouydit to the thre present ministeris, quhousone the same may be convenientlie had without our burdening of the toun.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, deuysit and ordanit Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to answer and obey Mr. Peter Blakburne, minister, of the sowme of twentie pundis money to mak his expenssis in passing to Edinburgh as commissionar to the platt, for tacking ordour quhow the ministrie of this burght sal be payit of thair stipendis, quhilk soume sall be allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

19*th November*, 1595.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanit Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to caus erect the hallis for the meill a littill beneth the fische croce, as the maist convenient rowme for placing of the same, fund sua be the consall, quhilkis hallis obefoir was ordanit to have bene biggit at the eist end of the tolbuyth stair.

25*th November*, 1595.

Item, it being procedit to the rowping of the grass of the Linkis, and the prouest and bailleis remembring that the generall conventioun of burrowis, as also the generall assemblie of the ministrie of this realme, ar to be hauldin within this burght in the moneth of Julii nixt, and that thair is nocht grass nar hand this burght for serving of the commissionaris horssis, and the horssis of sic as sall be at the saidis conventionis saiff onlie the grass of the saidis Linkis: theirfor the prouest and baillies, with aduyse of the consall and town convenit this day, ordainis the grass of the saidis Linkis to be kepit and hanit quhill

the saidis conventionis, for syrving of the horssis of sic as sall be present theirat. 25th Nov., 1595.

1st December, 1595.

The said day, anent the actioun and caus of nichtbourheid, movit and perseuit be George Erle Merschall aganis Gilbert Mengzeis of Petfoddellis, for reparing of the said Gilbertis ruinous wallis nixt adiacent to the said erlis ludging and yard, and finding cautioun to the said erle, *de indemnitate*, as the said erlis clame gevin to the said Gilbert beris, comperit the said erll be Mr. Johne Cheyne his procuratour, and producit the said clame, and desyrit the prouest and baillies to decerne the said Gilbert, to find the said erll nichtbourheid and cautioun, *de indemnitate*, and protestit for coistis, skaythis, and damnage aganis the said Gilbert, incaice of ony damnage to be sustenit be the said erll, and to fall on his land or yard be occasioun of the said ruynous wall, and aganis the said judges incace they caus nocht the said Gilbert find the said cautioun: *ex adverso* compeirit the said Gilbert, be Mr. Alex^r. Irwing his procuratour, and alledgit, that albeit be the ordinance of the lawis of burrowis, cautioun aucht to be fund to the said erll be the said Gilbert, *de indemnitate*, yit having consideratioun that the said Gilbert offeris him to prewe be occular inspectioun and vtherwayis, as accordis of the law, that gif the said erle hes gottin any skayth in his ludging or yard forsaid, the same is in his awin default be casting of ane gutter within the said Gilbert Mengzeis wall and boundis therof, sua now *re* nocht being *integra*, in the said erllis awn default, na cautioun suld be fund *de indemnitate*, adherand therto, desyrit ane day to answer to the said clame, and the said Mr. Johne Cheyne, procuratour for the said erll, alledgit na day suld be gevin to answer, in respect the actioun is of nichtbourheid, and theirfor summar; and the said frivoll alledgeance aucht not to stay the cautioun, *de indemnitate*, inrespect thair is nathing dependand aganis the said erll theranent, at the instance of the said Gilbert; and farder, the said Gilbert lykvayes desyrit cautioun, *de indemnitate*, of the said erle, and the prouest and baillies decernit the said Gilbert to find cautioun to the said erle, *de indemnitate*, that his ludging, yard, and paviment stane therof salbe skaythles of the said ruynous wailis, and assignit Fryday to the said Gilbert to gif in his reasones aganis the said erle, concerning the bigging of the dyk, and the said Mr. Johne protestis for remeid of law.

17th Dec., 1595.

17th December, 1595.

The said day, the consall ordanit Maister George Andersone, thesaurer, to pay to Mr. Dauid Cuninghame Bischop of Abirdene, the soume of sevin pundis money, for the doubill gressum and entries syluer of the toun of Abirdene to the landis of Caprastoun, and siclyk fourtie s. for the said Bischoppis round seall to the townis chartour of confirmatioun of the saidis landis, and the sowme of threttie fyve s. for the few deutie of the saidis landis of Caprastoun, of the Martimes terme last bypast, quhilk sal be allowit to him in his thesaurer comptis.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, considdering that the tua commoun knockis of this burght, to vit, the kirk knok and the tolbuith knok, sen Martemas last hes bene evill handlit and rewlit, and hes nocht gane induring the said space, theirfor feit Thomas Gordone, gunmacker, to reull the saidis tua knockis, and to caus thame gang and strik the houris richtlie bayth nicht and day, quhilk the said Thomas promeist faythfullie to do, and to be diligent in reuling of the saidis knockis, and causing thame gang and strik the houris richtlie, evir to be tryit vpon his diligence, rewling, and avating on the saidis tua knockis be the consall, for the quhilk the consall ordanit him to have for his panis in reuling of baith the saidis knockis, vlklie, sex schillingis aucht penneis, and to be answerit therof be the deane of gild, quhilk sal be allowit to him in his comptis, and the said Thomas to be payit therof on his diligent avating and guid reuling of the saidis knockis and na vtherwayes, and during the counsallis will and his guid service allanerlie, vpon tryell and consideratioun euer to be had of the said Thomas guid service and diligence anent the reuling of the saidis knockis.

24th December, 1595.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, considdering that the cheiff burrowis of this realme hes houssis belanging to the burght callit the townis houssis, quhilkis servis for a wreting buith to thair commoun clerk, and a hous for keping of thair buikis and registeris, and aduysing of the processes dependand betuixt nichtbour and nichtbour befoir the prouest and baillies, and that maist ewous to the tolbuith of the burght: and that Maister Thomas Mollysone commoun clerk of this burght, is to

remove at Witsonday nixt fra the chalmer and wreting hous presentlie occupeit be him, quhilk wes occupeit obefor be vmquhill Maister Johnne Kennedy, commound clerk, dyvers and sindrie yeris, lyand on the north syd of the Castelgett of this burght, quhilk was ever callit the clerkis chalmer, a place knawin to the haill inhabitantis and vtheris as maist convenient for that purpose, being sa neir the tolbuyth of this burght, to sie and prouyd for ane hous quhair the same may be maist commodiously and convenientlie had narrest to the tolbuith of this burght, quhilk langer the said Maister Thomas can nocht posseid nor occupie, be reasone the same is disponit heretablie be the proprietor, and the byer therof man enter theirto at the said terme; theirfor ordanit the thesaurer of this burght to sie and prouyd for ane hous, quhair the same may be maist commodiouslie and convenientlie had narrest to the tolbuyth, to be ane vreting buyth to the said Mr. Thomas, thair servitour and clerk, and to be ane hous for keping of the townis buikis and registeris, and aduysing of processes, that the prouest and baillies may have recours thervnto to that effect, as ane meit hous for the same, and that the thesaurer sall pay the maill therof yeirlie, vnto the tyme the town and counsall prouyd for ane hous of thair awin to the effect forsaid, the maill of the quhilk yeirlie sall be allowit to the said thessaurer in his comptis. 24th Dec., 1595.

8th January, 1595.

The said day, compeirit judiciallie, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and consall of the said burght, George Gardyn of Banchorie, and frielie and simplie renunceit, quyt clameit, and dischargit, all actioun and persute, bayth ciuill and criminall, quhilk he hed, hes, or ony wayis may have in tyme cuming aganis Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, Willeam Settoun of Blair, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, Willeam Gray, Alexr. Jaffray, Johne Forbes at the brig of Dee, Thomas Fynnie, Andro Hendersone, vobster, Andro Willeamsone, wobster, Alexander Harper, vobster, Johne Sibbett, James Kay, Andro Thoris, Robert Smyth, Willeam Smyth, James Robertsone, cordonar, Johne Fraser, measoune, Patrik Leith, armorar, Gilbert Still, Charlis Wilsone, Robert Kelo, Patrick Donaldsone, Johne Flescher, Richard Flescher, and George Gibsone, all burgessis and induellaris of the burght of Abirdene, or aganis quhatsumeuer vther persones burgesses and inhabitantis therof, for cuming to the said George Gardynnis duelling hous of Banchorie Devynnik, in the moneth of

8th January, 1595.

May, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscoir ten yeris, tacking out of vmquhill Patrik Bissett, his Maiesties rebell, furth of the samen, quha fled and tuik the said hous for his saifguard, persewing and asseging theirof, bracking doun and demolishing of the wallis of the samen, or ony pairt theirof, or for trubling of the said George, or ony of his servandis or bairnis, and all and quhatsumever vther actioun he hes, had, or in any vayes micht pretend to have, aganis the saidis persones, or any of thame, or aganis quhatsumeuer other persones that was in companie with thame, at the tyme foirsaid, quhidder the same actioun be civill or criminall, grantand and confessand, that quhatsumeuer the said Thomas Menzeis and remanent persones aboue writtin, or sic as war with thame, at the tyme aboue specifeit, was lauchtfullie and ordourlie done be the said Thomas Mengzeis, being baillie of the said burgh for the tyme, vpon sufficient warrand, he being chargit as baillie of the said burght with letter of captioun to sersch, seik, tak, and apprehend the said Patrik Bissett, being his Maiesties rebell, quhareuer he micht be apprehendit: quhairvpon the said Thomas Mengzeis, for him selff and in name of the haill foirnamit persones aboue writin, tuik act of court and instrument.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanit Alexander Ewyn, deane of gild, to content and pay to George Gardyne of Banchorie, the sowme of fyftie merkis vsuall money of this realme, of the reddiest of the accidentis and casualiteis belonging to this toune, being in his handis, betuixt the daitt heirof and the feist of Candilmes nixt to cum, quhilk sall be allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

12*th January*, 1595.

The said day, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, in presence of the haill toune, convenit this day in thair heid court, opinlie declarit and exponit that his hienes and lordis of secreit counsall had deuysit and ordanit generall wapinschawingis to be maid and keipit vniuersallie throchout all the partis of this realme, als weill to burght as to land, vpon the secund day of Februar nixt, and that his hienes proclamatioun is direct thairwpon, commanding and charging all his hienes lieges, alls weill to burght as land, regalitie as royaltie, to prepair thame selffis and be in full reddines to mak wapinschawis and gif musturis vpon the said secund day of

Februar nixt, weill bodin in fear of weir, in the presence of the prouest and baillies of burrowis, stewartis, schireffis, and vtheris commissionaris to landwart, vnder the pane of tinsell of lyiff, landis, and gudis, and that for resisting and withstanding foran preparationis threatnit of a lang tyme bygane, for prosequtioun of thair detestabill conspiracies againis Christ and his evangell, quha ar presentlie in reddines, intending to aryue in this iland to move a publict weir againis God, his trew religioun, his Maiesties persone and authority, and all the guid subiectis of this realme professing the same religioun with his hienes, to the ruine and conquest of this ancient kingdome, and libertie quhilk the same hes inioyit sa mony agis, that it may be subject heirefter to the slaiffrie and tyrranie of that prood nation of the Spangeardis, quha hes maid sa vnlauchtfull conqueis in dyvers partis of the wardill, as in the letteris publischeit thairanent at mair lenth was contenit, and intimat the same to the haill toun, convenit as said is, commanding and ordaining thame and euerie ane of thame, for obedience to his Maiesties charge and proclamatioun, that thay prepair thame selffis, and be in reddines agane the said secund day of Februar nixt, weill bodin in fear of weir, with hagbuttis, jackis, spearis, and steill bonattis, reddie to gif thair wapinschaw, and folow the directioun of the prouest, baillies, and magistrattis, and sic as sall be appoyntit be thame capitanes and commanderis, as they will eschew the perrell of the said proclamatioun, and schaw thair deutifull obedience to his Maiesties charge; and that nane of the inhabitantis of this burght present him selff the said day to the wapinschaw and musture, vtherwayis armit than with jack, corslett, lang speir, or hagbut, and that they present nocht the wapinschaw with halbertis nor Dense aixis; and lykvayes intimat to the merchandis, trafficquaris of this burght, that thay bring hame pulder, bullettis, corslettis, and all vther kynd of armour, and mak pennie theirof to the lieges of this realme vpon reasonable prices, according to the said proclamatioun and actis of parliament maid thairanent. 12th January, 1595.

20th January, 1595.

Eodem die, Dominus Joannes Carmichaell, de eodem, miles, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden, de communi omnium burgensium eiusdem consensu et assensu, solutis pre-

20th January, 1595. posito, quinque solidis in alba bursa, et prestito per eundem, solito juramento.

23rd January, 1595.

The said day, the haill toun, burgessis and craftismen, &c., the mater concerning the prouisioun for the pure being opinlie decleirit to thame be the bailleis and minister, and the act of parliament maid theiranent being publictlie red in all their audience, and the puir being deuydit in four rankis, to vit, in babis, decayit persones houshalderis, leamit and impotent persones, and in sic as war decrepit and auld, borne and bred within this burght, at the leist that hes maid their commoun resort and residence within the same be the space of thir sevin yeris bypast, thay all in ane voce but any opposition or contradictioun, folowing first Goddis commandement, and nixt the directioun of the said act of parliament, grantit, agreit, and consentit, ilk man frielie and voluntarlie voting be himself, according to the ordour of the suit roll, sum to receawe in thair houssis ane baib, and lyk vayis to pay contributioun for help and support of the remanent puir of the rankis forsaidis, borne and bred within this toun, at the leist quha hes maid residence within the same be the space forsaid, utheris to contribut, and ilk man voting be himself, grantit to pay the contributioun sett doun in the roll maid this day, for ane yeir, to be payit quarterlie, with provisioune that the magistrattis tak sic substantious ordour anent the expelling of extranear beggaris, idill and vagabond persones, furth of this burght, as the said act of parliament prescryvis, and that the purell of this burght of the rankis forsaidis, be contenit within houssis, helpit be the commoun contributioun, and not sufferit to cum to the streittis, houssis, or yettis of this burgh to seik almous, and according to the said voting, ilk man speking be himself as said is, the roll was instantlie sett down, and sic as everie man grantit be his awin mouth, wreittin, and the babis delyuerit to sic as war content to receawe tham, the receaweris name with the babis name, wreittin lykvayes.

11th February, 1595.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, for obedience to his majesties chargis and letteris publeschit anent the assembling of his hienes haill lieges, fensibill persones, als weill to burgh as to land, upon the

secund day of this instant Februar, commanding and ordaining the numeris of the persones that musturis to be put in roll and send out to his grace, ordanit the numer of four hundreth persones, hagbutteris and spearmen, to be gevin wp for this burght, gevaris of musturis the said day, and send our to his majestie gif the remanent burrowis gevis up their numer, and becaus be the said proclamatioun, it is ordanit, that commanderis be nominat and appyntit within ilk parochin, to lerne and trayn the inhabitantis of the same parochin to gang in ordour, and beir thair wapynnis, and to convene twyis ilk moneth to that effect, theirfor the consall ordanit the four bailleis to be commanderis of the inhabitantis of this burght, ilk baillie commander of his awin quarter, and sic as he sall appoynt and nominat under him and na utheris, to lerne and trayne the inhabitantis of this burght to gang in ordour and beir thair wapynnis, and for this effect, ordanit the haill inhabitantis, fensabill persones, within this burght, to be warnit agane the first day of Marche nixt, to be in reddiness that day in thair best armour, ilk man macking the armour he beris as his awin, to accumpanie and folow thair commanderis, and gif musturis with thame that day, and quhatsumeuer uthir day or dayes as thay happin to be commandit and warnit be the maggistrattis, wnder the pane of ane wnlaw of ten pundis, to be upliftit of ilk persone absent or insufficiently armit; and siclyk, becaus the four quarteris of the toun, as thay ar presentlie deuydit, ar verray inequall, thair being mony ma inhabitantis in ane quarter nor in ane wther, theirfor ordanit the bailleis and clerk to deuyd the toun als equallie as possiblie thay can, in four quarteris, that the numer of ilk quarter may be conforme and agreabill to ane wther, sa nar as may be collectit. 11th Feb., 1595.

14*th February*, 1595.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and persones of the consall of the said burght efter folowing: thay ar to say, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest; Mr. Richard Irving, Alexander Forbes, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, bailleis; Alex^{r}· Cullen, Alexander Rutherfurd, Johne Collysone, Willeam Gray, Dauid Andersone, Dauid Cargill, Mr. George Andersone, Thomas Gray, Alex^{r}· Crukschank, Johne Tallydaff, Johne Kyng, Willeam Loremar, and Gilbert Blak, coupar: Forsamekill as Thomas Sutherland, skipper, burges of this burght, quha past as maister of ane schip callit the Andro, and transportit Mr. Walter Lyndsay therin, to Spayne, in the moneth of

4th February, 1595. September or thairby, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} four scoir fourtene yeris, is returnit, as thay ar crediblie informit, fra Spainzie, and is cum this day to this toun, landit at Anstruther, and is cum landgett fra Anstruther to Torrie, within the schireffdome of Kincardin, quhairof the Erll Merschall is principall schireff, and is presentlie in the said Erll Merschallis hous, on the south syd of the Castelgett of this burght, thocht guid and expedient that the prouest, Mr. Richard Irving, baillie, Alex^{r}. Rutherfurd, and Johne Collysone, sall pas to the said erll, and require his lordschip to retene and keip the said Thomas, being in his possession and within his hous, and to be answerabill and comptabill for the said Thomas to his maiestie, and exoner the toun of Abirdene of his keping, at his maiesties handis, and of all danger and perrell that the toun may incur throch his cumming to this toun, and to offer the townis concurrence to the said erll for his keping till his maiestie may be aduerteist of the mater, and vpon this requisitioun to tak instrumentis; and incase of the said erllis refusall to accept the keping of the said Thomas till his maiestie may be aduerteist, and to tak the townis concurrence, the consall in ane voce wotit but contradictioun that the said Thomas salbe send south to his maiestie and lordis of secreit consall, and presentit to his grace, and to that effect ordanis Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, Andro Hay, and Willeam Michell, officieris, to be send with him, for presenting of him to his Maiestie, and that thay sall hawe to mak thair chargis and expenssis four scoir pundis, quhilk the said dean of gild was ordanit to tak vp vpon proffitt, becaus thair is na fordell syluer of the townis accidentis in his handis, quhilk principall soume and proffitt tharof was ordanit to be allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

15th March, 1595.

The said day, Gilbert Willox, wricht, and Leonard Leslye, war accusit for trubling of the toun in persewing William Patrie, burges of this burght, the said Gilbert Willox with ane quhinger, and the said Leonard Leslye for stricking of the said Willeam with ane sword on the heid; compeirit the saidis Gilbert and Leonard, and denyit the accusatioun forsaid, quhairfor the same was referrit to the knawledge of the assise, chosin, sworne, and admittit in judgement: quhilk assise being furth of court removit, and inclusit within the consal hous, efter detfull tryall and examinatioun had be thame of the accusatioun aboue wretin, thay

all in ane voce, but contradictioun, fand that the said Leonard Leslye and Gilbert Willox had trublit the toune be persewing of the said William Patre in maner supermentionat, quhairfor thay and ather of thame war convict and put in amerciament of court to forbeir, &c., and war ordanit to remaine in waird within the tolbuyth, ay and quhill thay fand sufficient cautioun and souertie that the toun suld not be trublit be thame in tyme cumming, and for modificatioun of thair vnlawis, quhilkis was instantlie modifeit as folowis: to vit, ordanit ather of thame to pay the vnlaw of fyve merkis to the dean of gild. 15th March, 1595.

22*nd March*, 1595.

The said day, the prouest and baillies fand that dyveris inhabitantis of this burght hes bene grytlie hurt and damnefeit, in the bying fra merchandis theirof of angzeoun seid, quhilk, efter a pruiff and tryell had theirof, hes bene fund insufficient, and theirfor for eschewing of the said hurt to be incurrit be the byeris of engzeoun seid heireftir, fra merchandis of this burght, hame bringeris theirof, hes statut and ordanit that all merchandis of this burght, bringeris hame of engzeoun seid in tyme cumming fra foran cuntries, sall report and bring hame a ticket of the merchand fra quhom he byes the said seid, in wther realmes, of the sufficiencie and guidnes theirof; and the merchand, sellar of engzeoun seid, sall warrand the seid sauld be him within this burght to the inhabitantis theirof, and wpsett the skayth to be sustenit be thame throcht the insufficiencie theirof.

23*rd March*, 1595.

The quhilk day, vpon the complaynt of Dauid Cargill, dean of gild and commoun procuratour for the town, aganis M^r^. Robert Chalmer, Willeam Scharp, Alex^r^. Wedonsone, Margrat and [ ] Gibbis, dochteris to vmquhill Thomas Gib, barbour, Alex^r^. Ramsay, Patrik Smyth, Alexander Chalmer, James Leslye, Maister George Bissett, Dauid Fergussone, Thomas Strathauchyn, Johne Craig, baxter, [ ] Badie, Johne Kempt, Willeam Massie, measone, James Dwn, sone to vmquhill Andro Dwn, litster, and Johne Donaldsone, burgessis and induellaris of the said burght, heretabill possessours and titularis *respectiue* of the houssis and yardis, merchand to Sanct Katherines hill of the same burght, quhilk hill is a pairt of the commontie of the samen, for the wrangous appropriating

23rd March, 1595.

of ane gryt pairt of the said hill to thair yardis, *respectiue* marching therwith, and extending and bigging out thair yairdis thervpon, to the gryt hurt and preiudice of the said burght, commoun weill theirof, and to the diminisching of the said hill, that was sa braid and spacious on the heid theirof, and now be the bigging out of their yardis theirvpon, on all pairtis and sydis of the samen, that skerslie may it be knawin and decernit quhat is and was hill, desyrand theirfor the prouest, baillies, consall, and lyneris of the said burght, to tak ordour theirwith, as a cheif thing concerning the commoun weill, be distinguisching of the said hill be its awin just and richteous methis and marchis, and bounding of the same fra the saidis persones yardis *respectiue*; that the said hill being a pairt of the commountie of the said burght, be not appropriatt be the saidis particular persones, as in the said complaynt at mair lenth was contenit; the prouest, baillies, consall, and lyneris of the said burght efter folowing, thay ar to say: Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, M^r^. Richard Irwing, Alexander Forbes, James Settoun, M^r^. Dauid Rutherfuird, baillies: Alexander Cullen, Johne Collysone, Maister Patrick Cheyne, Dauid Andersone, William Gray, Dauid Cargill, M^r^. George Andersone, William Loremar, George Strathauchin, Alex^r^. Ewyn, Johne Tullidaff, Thomas Gray, Johne Kyng, Alexander Cruskschank, Alexander Stevin, baxter, and Gilbert Blak, coupar, with dyuers of the dekynnis of craftis of the said burght, past to the said Sanct Katherines hill, all the fornamit persones aboue writtin complanit vpon, being lauchtfullie warnit to compeir this day, vpon the said hill and ground thereof, at tua efternone, to heir and sie cognitioun takin be the saidis prouest, baillies, consall, and lyneris, anent the richteous boundis, methis, and marchis of the said hill, and to answer to the said complaynt, and to heir and sie thame selffis and ilk ane of thame decernit to haue done wrang in the inlarging and bigging out of the saidis yardis *respectiue*, vpon the said hill and boundis theirof, and appropriating of a gryt pairt theirof to thair saidis yardis *respectiue*, on all pairtis and syddis theirof, and the fornamit persones complainit vpon, compeiring for the maist pairt personallie vpon the ground of the said hill, thair richtis, titillis, reasones, and alledgeances being hard, sene, considderit, and vnderstand be the saidis prouest, baillies, consall, and lyneres, and they being ryplie and at lenth aduysit theirwith, visiting and considdering the heidis of the yardis of the particular persones aboue nominat, laitlie biggit out vpon the said hill

be thame and thair predicessouris, titularis of the saidis landis and yardis, *respectiue* merchand to the samen hill, be ocular inspectioun and apperance, notourlie knawn to thame and all that saw the same, and aduysing and resolving with the declarations and depositions of thir nyn persones efter folowing, maist ancient burgessis of the said burght, eldest of yeris levand this day within the samen, quha best knew the boundis of the said hill, methis and marchis therof, the youngest of thame all being of the aige of thrie scoir and fyve yeris, sum of thame being thrie scoir and sevinteine, tovit, Alexander Hay, Andro Scherar, Johne Durty, Robert Mollysone, Walter Cullen, Andro Brabner, William Jak, William Vrquhard, and Andro Symmer, past and boundit the said hill as followis, and begud and tuik vp the first marche theirof towardis the south, at the north syd of the commoun wennell, quhilk passis fra the Schipraw by Sanct Katherinis Chappell to the Greene of the said burght, at ane willing trie presentlie standing in the south mud dyk of the yard now pertening to the said Willeam Cassie, at the quhilk place their is ane marche stane ordanit to be infixit, merkit with [ ] to be the richt methe and marche of the said hill, deuyding and distinguisching the samen fra the said yard, and fra the said marche stane passand lineallie and directlie north or thairby, throw the yardis of the said William Massie, James Dun, wmquhill Thomas Camboll, theireftir [ ] Stirling, and now pertening to the said Johne Kempt, quhill it cum to the wast nuik of the yard of the airis of vmquhill Mr. Andro Auchinlek, to the vther stane thair to be infixit, and to be merkit as said is, besyd ane plumb trie, direct eist or thairby fra the chalmer wyndo of the said vmquhill Mr. Androis bakhous, quhilkis twa marche stanes ar ordanit and appoyntit to be the wastmest marchis of the said hill, deuyding and separating the samen fra the saidis yardis, and fra the said marche stane in the wast nuik, and the said wmquhill Mr. Androis yard dyk ascendis south eist or thairby, triangling throw and athort the hedis of the yardis of the said vmquhill [ ] Badie, Johne Craig, Thomas Strathauchyn, Dauid Fergussone, and Mr. George Bisset, as the same was presentlie pottit and merkit this day, till it cum to the north nuik of the bak dyckis and bakyettis of the said James Leslie, elder, and Alexander Chalmer, presentlie standand, biggit be thame with stane and morter, and fra the bak yett forsaid, triangling as said is, athort the heidis of the yardis of the said vmquhill Thomas Bransche, now perteining to the said Patrik Smyth; vmquhill Willeam

23rd March, 1595.

23rd March, 1595.

Annand, now perteining to the said Alexander Ramsay; vmquhill Walter Cant, now pertening to the dochteris of the said vmquhill Thomas Gib; vmquhill Alexander Donaldsone, baxter, now perteining to the said Alex^r. Wedonsone; vmquhill Sir Alex^r. Robertsoune, now pertening to the said Willeam Scharp, and throcht the yard of the said Mr. Robert Chalmer, southeist or thairby, quhill it cum to the north syd of the said vennell, at that pairt of the samen, direct north or theirby, anent and forganis that pairt of Sanct Katherines Chappell yaird, quhair the northeist nuik of the eist gavill of the said chappell stuid; finding the marchis forsaidis to be the just marchis of the said hill, and that the yardis of the saidis Mr. Robert Chalmer, Willeam Scharp, Alexander Wedonsone, Thomas Gib, Alexander Ramsay, ar biggit out vpon the said Sanct Katherines hill, be the space of threttie futtis or theirby, and that the saidis persones hes wrangouslie appropriatit the heidis of thair saidis yardis, or west end therof, towardis the said hill to the space forsaid, enlarging thair yardis vrangouslie thairwith, and that thay and ilk ane of thame hes done wrang theirthrow; and als the saids Mr. George Bissett, Dauid Fergussone, Thomas Strathauchyn, Johne Craig, and [ ] Badie, and the saidis Johne Kempt, James Dwn, and Willeam Massie, hes lykvayes wrangouslie appropriatit a pairt of the said Sanct Katherines hill to thair saidis yardis, biggit out and enlargit thair saidis yardis theirvpon, within the boundis aboue specifeit, and theirfor decernit and ordanit the said persones, and everie ane of thame, to desist and ceas in tyme cumming fra all laboring, vsing, or occupeing of that pairt of the said hill, wranguslie appropriatit to thame obefoir, to thair saidis yardis within the boundis aboue mentionat, and the saidis Maister Robert Chalmer, Willeam Scharp, Alexander Wedonsone, Thomas Gib, Alexander Ramsay, to demoleise and cast doun thair bak dyckis and yettis biggit vpon the said hill, and to tak in the samen, threttie futtis within thair saidis yardis, as said is. Forder, the saidis prouest, baillies, consall, and lyneris fand that the said wennell, passand fra the said Schipraw to the Grene, by the said chappell, was wranguslie closit vp and condampnit be the said Mr. Robert Chalmer, be bigging be him of ane mud dyck betuixt the said chappell and his said bak dyck, quhilk thay ordane to be cassin doun, decerning the said wennell to be oppin in all tyme cuming for ane passage fra the said Schipraw to the Grene, and the said wennell to be of breid in all pairtis of [ ] spaces, according to vse and wount. Comperit the said Mr. Robert Chalmer, and protestit

for remeid of law and nullitie of process, and that inrespect he was warnit this present day as he alledgit at ellevin houris befoir none, be Thomas Dicksone, officeir, he being distant tua myllis fra the said burght, to compeir at efternone befoir the saidis prouest, baillies, and consall, in a mater of consequence concerning his heretage, inrespect quairof, they culd nocht proceid, and pronounce this day thair decreit in maner forsaid, being the first tyme that the said Mr. Robert was citat, as he alledgit, and suld have had ane day to gif in his defenssis, and theirfor protestit as said is, and alledgit lykwayes that the said actioun was dependand befoir the prouest and baillies of the said burght, in ane vther proces yet slepand, and yit nocht ordourlie and lauchfullie walknit, at the instance of the deane of gild of the said burght, aganis the said Mr. Robert and dyvers of the persones aboue mentionat, as ane act of dependance schawin be the said Mr. Robert thairanent, of the dait the [ ] day of Junij, 1593 yeris, proportis, and theirfor yit as obefoir protestit, that the said decreit be nawayes effectuall aganis him, for remeid of law, nullitie of proces, and reductioun, tyme and place convenient; and Andro Kyng, in name of the toun of Abirdene, and as commoun procuratour therof, protestit in the contrar that the said decreit was effectuall, inrespect that the said Mr. Robert and persones aboue mentionat, aganis quhom the same is pronuncit, war lauchfullie warnit be the said Thomas Dicksone, officier, to compeir this day at efternone vpon the said hill, for ane deid of wrang, done be thame on the townis commountie, viz.: vpon the said S. Katherines hill, in the quhilk, lang citatioun is nocht necessar, and that in all sic actionis the consall procedis summarlie the first day, according to the custum of burght. 23rd March, 1595.

24th March, 1595.

The said day, the consall ordanit Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to send to the toun of Lenlithgo for the measure of the said toun, and to report the said messour to this burght, and quhat expenssis he debursis theiron, thay ordane to be allowit to him in his comptis.

3d June, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall having receavit his maiesties letter, datit at Halyruidhous the xxviii. day of April last, mentionand that nochtwithstanding of his hienes actis of parliament, and lait

3d June, 1596. proclamationis maid, inhibiting that pistolletis or sic tratourous wapynis suld be vsit, borne, or worne within burght, for eschewing of the gryt bluidsched, and inconvenientis that commounlie theirvpon ensewis, and that command be gevin theirin lykvayes, to the prouests and baillies of burrowis, to apprehend, challange, and tak ordour with the contravenaris of the saidis actis and proclamationis, or vthervayes that thay suld be answerabill to his hienes for the same thame selffis : His grace wes informit that the inhabitantis and vtheris resorting to this burght, ceassis nocht commounlie and opinlie to beir, wear, and hant the said forbidden wapynnis, to the gryt contempt of his hienes authoritie and lawis ; theirfor forvarning the prouest and baillies of this burght to prevent thair awin perrell thairanent, and desyring thame to tak sic ordour theirwith, conforme to the tenour of the saidis actis and proclamations, or vthervayes that the saidis prouest and baillies salbe ansuerable theirfor, callit and accusit for the same with all regour : For obedience to the saidis actis of parliament, his maiesties proclamation maid theirvpon, and missive forsaid, ordanit proclamatioun to be maid throch all the rewis and streitis of the toun, be passing of the drum theirthrocht, and be oppin proclamatioun at the mercatt croce, charging all and sundrie the inhabitantis of this burght, and vtheris quhatsumeuer resorting theirto, in his hienes name and authoritie, and in name of the prouest and baillies of this burght, that nane of thame presvme, nor tak vpon hand, privatlie nor opinlie, to bear, wear, or vse any pistollis within this burght in tyme cuming, vnder the pane of ten pundis, *toties quoties*, and escheitting of the pistollis apprehendit, but preiudice of the panis of death and demembering, gif it pleis his maiestie to have the same execut; certefeing all sic as salbe apprehendit be the saidis prowest and baillies heirefter, bearing, wearing, or vsing any pistollettis within this burght in tyme cumming, that thay salbe challangit, takin, apprehendit, accusit, and convict be the saidis prouest and baillies, conforme to the saidis actis of parliament and proclamation maid thairanent.

7th June, 1596.

The said day, anent the complaynt gevin in be James Settoun, Patrik Forbes, William Measone, and Johne Fergusone for thame selffis, and in name of the remanent awnaris of the schip of this burght callit the Gift of God, aganis Alexander Guthrie, mariner, for the said Alexanderis cum-

ming abuird vpon the said schip, vpon Setterday last, the fyft of that instant, na man being within the samen, and thair wickedlie tacking of ane aix and thairwith cutting and hewing at the mainmast of the said schip, of intentioun to hawe hewin the same ouirbuird, and thaireftir to have sett the said schip in fyir; comperit the said Alexander Guthrie, and being accusit of the said wrang done be him in maner forsaid, confessit that vpon the day forsaid, he past abuird on the said schip, and tuik ane aix, and thairwith strak at the main mast therof, of intentioun to have hewin the same ouirbuird, vnles he had bene stayit, and thairfor referrit him in the will of the prouest, baillies, and consall, quhairfor he was convict, and putt in amerciament of court to forbear, &c., and was ordanit to remaine in ward within the tolbuyth, ay and quhill he sett cautioun for modificatioun of the amendis, and Gilbert Guthrie, younger, becom cautioun for the said Alexander to that effect, and he actit him to releive his cautionar. 7th June, 1596.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent the summondis deulie execut and indorsat to this day, at the instance of Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, and commoun procuratour of the said burght, makand mentioun, that quhair be the lovabill lawis of this realme, ancient statutis and ordinances of this burght, and actis maid in the generall conventions of burrowis, it is sett doun, deuysit, and ordanit, that all burgessis of gild and freemen of frie regall burrowis of this realme sall dwell, mak thair residence and remaining, with thair wyffis, bairnis, servandis, houshaldis, and famelie, hauld stob and stack, fyre and flett, within the burght quhair thay ar frie, skott, lott, watche, walk, and ward, with the inhabitantis, burgessis, and craftismen of the samen, or vthervayes to tyne and forfalt thair fredome, and all libertie, priviledge, and commoditie quhilkis thay or any of thame may jois or bruik thairby, as in the saidis actis and ordinances at lenth is contenit; neuertheles the persones efter following, viz.: Gilbert Frazer of Wattertown, James Arbuthnott, William Arbuthnot, his sone, Patrik Hay in Colleistoun, George Bissett, George Farchar, Andro Farchar, Thomas Coupland, Robert Arthour, Gilbert Loremar, George Troup, Thomas Bissett, John Henrie, James Strathauchyn, Johne Scott, Johne Leyth, James Cheyne, Mungo Tuedie, James Kyng, Adame Third, Johne Mamvre, William Muckart, Alexander Gordone,

7th June, 1596.

Willeam Swaip, Robert Arbuthnot, all burgessis of gild of the said burght, quhairof a numer hes land tackis and salmound fischingis of the same heretablie in few ferme, vtheris josis and brukis the libertie of frie burgessis of gild, frequenting the trafique and interchange of merchandice, and duellis nor remanis not actuallie within the said burght, bot hes thair residence in landwart, and vtheris places quhair thay think expedient, with thair wyffis, bairnis, famelie, and houshald, and thairthrow ar navayes in reddines, nor to be had at all tymes and seasones as occasioun offeris, to scott, lott, watche, walk, and ward with the inhabitantis of the said burght, according to thair act of creatioun and ayth of fidelitie, nather yitt sustene the rowmes and places of honest men within the samen, to the gryt hurt and preiudice of the commoun weill theirof, charging theirfor the haill fornamit persones aboue writtin to cum, resort, and repair to the said burght with thair wyffis, bairnis, servandis, houshaldis, and famelie, hauld stob and stack, fyre and flett, within the samen, betuixt the dait of the citatioun and charge maid to thame thairanent, quhilk was vpon the sevintene day of Januar last bypast, in the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscoir fyftene yeris, and the nyntene day of Aprill nixt thairefter, with certificatioun to the saidis persones and euerie ane of thame, that sic as com nocht to this burght, dwelt and remanit not within the same, held stob and stack theirin, betuixt and the day forsaid, thay suld be decernit and declarit, be declaratioun and decreit of the prouest and baillies of the said burght, to have tint and forfaltit thair fredome and burgeschip of the same, and all libertie, privilege, proffitt, and commoditie that thay may jois theirby, and thair names deleit furth of the suit roll of the said burght, as persones vorthie and meriting deprivatioun, according to the saidis actis of burrowis, lovabill actis and constitutions of this burght, as in the said summondis deulie execut and indorsat aganis thame, producit vpon the said nyntene day of Aprill, befoir the saidis prouest and baillies, at mair lenth is contenit; be vertew quhairof, vpon the said nyntene day of Aprill, thay and everie ane of thame being lauchtfullie and ordourlie callit to the effect afoirmentionat, and not compeirand, the prouest and baillies vpon certan considerations moving thame, continewit the pronunciation of thair declaratour vpon the said summondis, to this day, ordaning intimatioun to be maid of the said continewatioun to the saidis persones at the mercat croce of the said burght, and als ordaning thame and euerie ane

of thame, yit as obefoir, to be chargit and warnit to cum, resort, repair, and mak thair actuall residence within the said burgh, hauld stob and staik, fyre and flett within the same, betuixt that and the said sevint day of Junij instant, with certificatioun as is befoir expressit, as the summondis deulie execut and indorsat aganis thame thairanent to this day producit in judgement at mair lenth beris; be vertew of the quhilk summondis this day producit, deulie execut and indorsat as said is, the haill persones aboue writtin, yit as obefoir, wer lauchtfullie and ordourlie callit at the tolbuyth wyndo to the effect afoir mentionat, and not comperand, the prouest and baillies, be reasone of thair contumasie, vnderstanding perfytlie that nane of the foirnamit persones had cum to this burght to mak thair residence within the same, nochtwithstanding of the charge gevin to thame aboue specifeit, decernit and ordanit thame and euerie ane of thame to have tint, amittit, and forfaltit thair friedome of this burght, and all libertie, previlege, proffitt, and commoditie, that thay or any of thame may bruik or jois thairby in tyme cumming, and their names to be deleit furth of the suitt roll of this burght, conforme to the saidis actis of burrowis, lovabill lawis and constitutions of the samen burght maid thairanent, and ordanit this thair decreit to be opinlie divulgat and proclamit at the mercat croce of the said burght: vpon the quhilkis the said Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, and commoun procuratour forsaid, tuik act of court and instrument. 7th June, 1596.

23rd June, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsell efter following, thay ar to say, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, James Settoun, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, bailleis, Alex^r. Rutherfurd, Alexander Cullen, Johne Collysone, William Gray, and Alex^r. Stevyn, baxter, ordanit the haill carvit tymmer wark betuixt the pilleris in the queir to be removit, and placit convenientlie quhair the same salbe thocht meit to be placed, to the effect that ane stane wall may be biggit betuixt the said queir and the bodie of the kirk, that the said queir may be maid ane preiching kirk for preiching of the word of God, and ministratioun of the sacramentis, with all convenient speid, according to the ordinance of the haill town maid obefoir, ordaining the queir to be deuydit fra the kirk, and maid ane new kirk to the effect forsaid.

29th June, 1596.

29th June, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, according to the louabill forme and consuetude observit within this burght in tymes bygane, during the being of the conventioun of burrowis within the same, ordanit ane honorabill and decent supper to be maid to the commissionaris of burrowis, to be convenit within this burght in thair generall conventioun, to begin and hauldin the first of July nixt, in ane cumlie and honest ludging, and ordanit Mr. George Andersone, thesaurer, to prouyd for the said supper, and mak the expenssis theiron for the honour of the town, as hes bene done in conventionis of burrowis to the commissionaris of the same in tymes bygane, quhilk expenssis thay ordane to be allowit to him in his comptis; and gif it salbe thocht expedient be the counsall that any forder salbe maid to the saidis commissionaris, the same to be done be the said thesaurer in maist honest and cumlie maner, not lacking spycerie and confectioins as occasioun sall offer. Persones of counsall present, Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, Alexander Forbes, James Settoun, Mr. Dauid Rutherfuird, baillies, Alex^r^ Rutherfurd, Dauid Andersone, William Gray, Dauid Cargill, Willeam Loremar, Mr. Patrick Cheyne, Gilbert Blak.

Eodem die.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall forsaid, ordanit the expenssis maid be Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, on the reparing, pinning, and harling of the tolbuyth outwith, and in reparing, paynting, and dasking of the counsalhous within, to be allowit to him in his comptis, vpon his particular compt to be gevin in heiron, to the auditouris of the townis comptis.

7th July, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, be reasone that Dauid Andersone, present maister of the kirk wark, refuisit to big the stane wall appoyntit to be biggit betuixt the kirk and the queir, for deuyding theirof in tua seuerall kirkis, theirfor electit, nominat, and chesit Andro Scherar, maister of wark to the bigging of the said stane wall, and to attend theiron, and on the reparing of the said new kirk and materiallis therof, quhill the feist of Michaelmes nixt to cum, quha compering personallie

acceptit the said office in and vpon him, and was sworne *de fideli administratione.* 7th July, 1596.

9th July, 1596.

The said day, the counsall electit and chesit Alex^r^. Rutherfuird, lait prouest, commissionar for this burght, to convene at Edinburght with the sex burrowis appoyntit and ordanit to convene their the tuentie day of July instant, according to the act of burrowis, maid at thair generall conventioun, haldin at this burght the third of this instant, to deall with his Maiestie, and lordis of secreit consall, anent the mater of the custumes, anent the service of his Maiestie towardis the Illis, agane the first day of August, and anent the sending to France to renew the league, as also, for sending ane numer to inhabitt and dwell in the mouth of Loquhaber and vther veychtie effaris, referrit to be handlit with the saidis sex burrowis, and ordanit the said Alex^r^. to have the soum of ane hundreth pundis for macking of his expenssis, to be stenttit on the merchandis and gild brether of this burght allanerlie.

The said day, it being aduysitlie considderit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, that the craftismen of this burgh daylie dois aspyir, crawe, and seik to hawe forder liberties and preuileges nor is speciallie sett doun, expressit, and contenit in the indenture and contract maid betuixt the prouest, baillies, counsall, and brether of gild of this burght, on the ane pairt, and the saidis craftis, on the vther pairt, of the dait, at Abirdene the [ ] day of [ ] the yeir of God j^m^ v^c^ four scoir fourtene yeris, and hes intendit to crawe als lairge and ampill liberteis as the brether of gild hes, and presentlie injoyis, nochtwithstanding that be the said contract, thay be theirfra restrainit: for remeid quharof, statut, deuysit, thocht guid and expedient, that thair sal be na craftisman maid free, nor burges of this burght in tyme cumming, be the prouest, baillies, and consall therof, bot sic as sall solemnitlie and publictlie swear, the tyme of the admissioun of thame of frie burgessis and craftismen, and giving of thair ayth of fidelitie, that thay sall keip and observe the said contract in euerie poynt, never reclame theirfra, nor seik, crawe, nor aspyre any farder libertie or preuilegis, nor is speciallie grantit to thame be the said contract, and decreit arbitrall theirin mentionat, and that the act of thair creatioun as burgessis contene the samyn in all tyme heireftir.

9th July, 1596. Followis the tenour of the decreit arbitrall pronouncit be the commissionaris of burrowis, anent the votis of the craftismen of this burght, in chesing of the magistrattis and office men of the samyn, decernit to be registrat *ad futuram rei memoriam.*

At Abirdene, the fyfth day of July, the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscoir and sextene yeris, the quhilk day in presence of the commissionaris of burrowis vnder subscryvand, being convenit in thair generall convention, hauldin at the said burght, comperit Thomas Menzeis of Durne, prouest of the said burght of Abirdene, and Alexander Rutherfurd, commissionaris for the said burght, on that ane pairt, and Mathow Guyld, dekyn of the hammermen; Johne Kempt, dekyn of the baxteris; Dauid Watsone, dekyn of the tailzeouris; Dauid Castell, dekyn of the wobsteris; Johne Merser, saidler; Alex$^{r.}$ Stevin, baxter, procuratouris, and havand power of the remanent dekynnis, and brether of the craftis of the said burght, for thame selffis, and tackand the burding vpon thame for the remanent bretheren of the craftis of the said burght, on that vther pairt, and submittit thame selffis to the amicabill decision of the saidis commissionaris of burrowis, anent the difference and question betuixt the saidis pairteis, concerning the nummer of the craftismen of the said burght, quhilk suld have voit yeirlie in election of the magistrattis of the samen, at the feist of Michaelmas, and quhatsumeuer the saidis commissioneris of burrowis suld decerne thairintill, promeist to hauld the samyn ferme and stabill, but reuocatioun, and wer content that thair decreit to be gevin in the said mater, suld be insert and registrat in the buikis of counsall, or commissaris buikis of Abirdene, with executioun of horning vpon ten dayes warning to pas thervpon; and the saidis commissionaris of burrowis having hard bayth the saidis pairteis, efter reasoning and debating of the said mater amangis thame selffis, findis and delyueris, and in amicabill waye decernis and ordanis, that in all tyme cumming, yeirlie and ilk yeir, the tyme of the electioun of the saidis magistrattis, thair salbe twa craftismen of the auld counsall, and twa of the new counsall, with the sex dekynis of craftis of the said burght allanerlie, quhilk salbe ten personis in numer, for the saidis craftis, and na ma, to haue voit in the yeirlie chesing at Michaelmas of the prouest, ballies, deane of gild, and thesaurer; and incase any of the saidis ten personis sall happin to be absent the day of the election, it salbe lesum to the remanent of the saidis craftis having voit in the electioun as said is, and being present, to cheis and put ane

qualifeit persone or persones, in place of thame that sall happin to be absent, to have voit as gif the persones absent war personallie present. And gif it sall happin any of the prouest, baillies, dean of gild, thesaurer, and counsall of the said burght, auld and new, (by the saidis craftismen), quhilkis sall nocht exceed the numer of threttie persones, by the prouestis od woit, quhilk mackis threttie ane voittis in the haill, for the pairt of the gild brethren, to be absent the said tyme of electioun, in that cace it salbe lesum to the saidis prouest, baillies, dean of gild, thesaurer, and counsall quha salbe present, to elect ane vther persone or persones according to the numer of thame that salbe absent, to gif woit at the said election, in and be all things, as gif thay had bene all present that hes woit ordinarlie; and this decreit thay decerne and ordane to be insert and registrat in the buikis, in maner aboue specifeit; with the quhilk, the saidis pairties compromittaris, for interteneing of quyetnes amangis the bowellis of the said burght, war content and agreit in all poyntis; in witnes of the quhilk the saidis pairties, and commissionaris, hes subscryvit thir presentis with thair handis as folowis, day, yeir, and place forsaidis, befoir thir witnessis, James Wynrame, agent; Johne Nisbeth, servitour to Mr. Alex^r. Guthrie, clerk to the saidis commissionaris; Johne Sorrett, clerk of Culross; Walter Robertsone, servitour to Mr. Thomas Mollisone, commoun clerk of Abirdene. *Et sic subscribitur*, Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, &c. 9th July, 1596.

4th August, 1596.

The samyn day, the consall ordanit Maister George Andersone, thesaurer, to deburse the soume of four pundis money, to mak ane poistis expenssis to be send to Edinburgh and Dundey, to mak the counsall of this burght aduerteist quhat ordour thay tak, anent his maiesties desyre in furnesing of fyve hundreth men be the burrowis, and thrie midling schippis, to pas to the Ilis for subdewing of the hieland men, and bringand thame vnder his majesties obedience, quhilk thay ordane the thesaurer to do with all diligence, and the said sowme to be allowit to him in his comptis, and ordanit the clerk to mak twa missives, ane to Edinburgh and ane vther to Dundy, to the effect forsaid.

13th August, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, adwysing vpon the toun of Edinburghis missive direct to thame, for the answer of thair letter,

13th August, 1596.

send obefoir to the prouest, baillies, and counsall of Edinburght, vnderstanding theirby that the said toun of Edinburght was traveling for thame selffis, with his maiestie and lordis, concerning the present raid towardis the ilis, and mater of the custumes, and that thay haue navayes maid the consall foirsene be thair letter, quhat resolutioun they had tane theiranent, declaring that thay war to folow ane separat course, seing that the sex burrowis had slaklie handlit the saidis materis, and considdering the perrell that may folow and ensew to this burght and inhabitantis theirof, gif sum tymous remeid be not prouydit for eschewing of sic perrell as the toun may incur, for not obeying of his maiesties proclamatioun anent the said raid to the ilis, and meting of his maiesties leutenent at Dumbartan, the xx. of this instant, ather be sending thair pairt of fyve hundreth men, and furnesing of this burghis pairt of thrie middling schippis, or els be payment macking of xii. lib. for ilk man according to his maiesties letter direct theiranent; and the tyme now approching neir, and being sa schort, thocht meit, expedient, and concludit, that ane commissionar suld be chosin for this burght, and send in all possibill diligence to Edinburgh, or quhair his maiestie hapnis to be for the tyme, to travell with his hines, and lordis, for this burght, anent the said raid, and for eviting of the perrell of his maiesties proclamatioun maid theiranent, and the danger that this burght may incur throw not obeying therof, and of his said missive, in agreing to pay for this townis pairt of the said men, according to his maiesties letter, and for the rigging out of thair pairt of the saidis schippis, according as Edinburgh, Dundy, and Perth hes agreit, or agreis, efter the forme of the generall stent roll of the burrowis, or sic vther reasonable way and forme as the said commissionar may appoynt for the weill of this burght, be sic creditt and moyen as he may gett and purcheis, and als to travell in the mater concerning the customes, be the aduyss of Edinburght, and sic vther burrowis as sall happin to be convenit, and to do thairanent as thay sall think proffittabill for the weill of the haill burrowis; and to the effect forsaid electit, nominat, and chesit James Settoun, baillie, to pas as commissionar for this burght, to the effect aboue mentionat, to quhome thay gawe full power and commissioun to do anent the premisses the best he culd, for the weill and ease of this burght; and to effectuat the samen, befoir or the town incurrit any danger, be reasoun of not macking present payment, anent the furnesing of this townis pairt of the said men and schippis, ordanit the said James Settoun to vplift vpon proffitt in Edin-

burgh, or quhair ever he may hawe it, samekill money as he hapnis to appoynt for, in name of this burght, for furnesing of the said men and schippis, fra quhatsumeuer persone he may hawe the same commodiouslie, and to mak securitie be him selff thairfor, quhairanent the prouest, bailleis, and counsall for thame selffis, and in name of this haill towne, actit thame selffis to warrand, frie, and keip skaythless, the said James, and to refound agane the same to him with all coistis, skaythis, expenssis, and interes it sall happin him to sustene, throw vplifting of the samen, vnder the pane of poynding and horning, to pas vpon ane simpill charge of ten dayes; and forder, ordanit the said James to hawe, for macking of his expenssis, fourtie schillingis ilk day, during his remaining furth of this burght, in doing of the saidis materis committit to him in the said commissioun, and the thesaurer to answer and obey him of the sowme of fourtie four pundis money in hand, and gif his remaining hapnis to be langer nor the said sowme will extend to, allowing fourtie s. for ilk day, he to be reinbursit be the thesaurer of fourtie s. for euerie day he remanis attour xx. dayes, the said James alvayes bringand hame with him ane sufficient discharge of the said raid to this burght, and of all danger that the same may incur, for not passing forwartis to the same, and not obeing of his maiesties proclamatioun maid theiranent. Persones of counsall present, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest; Alex^r^. Forbes, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, baillies; Alex^r^. Steuin, Mr Johne Cheyne, Johne Collysone, William Gray, Dauid Cargill, Mr. George Andersone, Johne Kyng, George Strathauchin, and Alex^r^. Stevin. 13th August, 1596.

16th August, 1596.

The said day, the baillies decernit and ordanit that all inhabitantis within this burght, bayth baxteris and vtheris, sall hawe ilk ane thair awin rowmes in the commoun mylnis of the same in tyme cuming, and thair cornis to be ground in order, as thay happin to cum in, and na vtherwayes, and that according to the custume of vther mylnis verefeit in judgement.

25th August, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis the haill toun to be warnit to compeir in the tolbuyth the morne, the xxvi. of this instant, for chesing of taxtaris and stentaris, to stent the sowme of four

25th August, 1596. hundreth and fourscoir pundis money vpon the inhabitantis of this burght, for thair pairt of the furnesing of fyve hundreth men, appoyntit be his maiestie to be furnesit amangis the haill burrowis in the raid towardis the Ilis; this burghtis pairt of the said men extending to fourtie men, and ilk mannis wagis for a moneth, extending to tuelf pundis; and with the said sowme to stent the sowme of fourtene scoir merkis, for the macking of the Gray Freir kirk watterthicht, poynting of the samen, and mending of the stepill theirof, the said extent extending in the haill, for the said raid, and mending of the kirk, to ane thousand merkis.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanit the stair presentlie begun to big be Robert Donaldson in the north gavill of his hous, lyand in the eist heid of the Castelgett, to be demolischit and takin doun, and na stair to be biggit thair in any tyme cuming, and that becaus it is fund be the counsall that the said stair narrowis the gett, and wald be ane gryt ilest theirvnto, and for the skayth sustenit be the said Robert in bigging of the said stair, ordanis him to have ane accident of tuentie pundis quhen it sall happin to fall.

The samen day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanis Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to answer and obey Gilbert Guthrie, younger, messinger, of the sowme of threttie pundis money for the said Gilbertis labouris and panis takin be him, in passing with the said dean of gild to the haill wynter and symmer fairis within this schirefdome of Abirdene, sen Michaelmes last, and their apprehending and challanging of forstalleris and vnfremen, and vsing of the townis letteris aganis thame, quhilk sowme, togidder with the said Gilbertis ordinar chargis at the saidis mercattis, thay ordane to be allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

26th August, 1596.

The said day, the haill toun, bayth frie and vnfrie, being lauchfullie warnit to this day, be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the toun, quhairvpon the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodye of the town, it was exponit to thame be Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, that the counsall had receavit a letter from James Settoun, baillie, thair commissionar laitlie

send be thame to Edinburgh, anent the mater of the raid to the ilis, and mater of the custumes, mentionand that he had agreit with his Maiestie and lordis of checker for the sowme of four hundreth and four scoir pundis for this burghts discharge of the said raid, by thair pairt of the furnesing of thrie schippis, and theirfoir desyrit the town, convenit as said is, to cheis stentaris for stenting of the said sowme vpon the haill inhabitantis of this burght, togidder with the sowme of fourtene scoir merkis, appoyntit to be bestowit on the repairing and macking watter thicht of the Grayfreir kirk, extending in the haill to the sowme of ane thowsand merkis; according to the quhilk the toune, convenit as said is, electit and chesit George Strathauchyn, James Mengzeis, Alex^r^ Kempt, Johne Kyng, Walter Collysone, Robert Gray, George Elphingstoun, saidler, and Robert Sanderis, coupar, taxtaris and stentaris, for stenting of the said sowme of ane thowsand merkis vpon the haill towne, bayth frie and vnfrie, ilk man according to his habilitie and substance, quhilkis persones compeiring personallie, acceptit the stenting of the said sowme in and vpon thame, and war sworne solemnitlie to stent the same amangis the haill inhabitantis, ilk man for his awin pairt, according to his habilitie and substance, according to thair knawledge. 26th August. 1596.

2nd September, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and persones of the counsall of the said burght after following, thay ar to say: Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, James Settoun, baillie, &c., being convenit within the counsal hous, comperit James Settoun, baillie, commissionar chosin be the counsall vpon the threttene day of August last, for passing to Edinburgh to his Maiestie, for travelling with his hienes and lordis of secreit counsall, for a discharge to this burght of the raid towardis the ilis, and anent the mater of the custumes, and efter the declaratioun be him at lenth of sic thingis as he had done in his said commissioun, producit ane discharge to this burght of the said raid towardis the ilis, subscrivit be the lordis of secreit counsall, for the sowme of sevin hundreth merkis, payit be the said James to our soueran lordis thesaurer, and siclyk producit ane extract of ane act of the lordis of checker, quhairbe the custumes of the realme ar ordanit to remaine in the auld estate quhill Martemes nixt, and the counsall forsaid having heard and sene the said James diligence in discharging him of the said commissioun, findis that

2nd Sept., 1596. he has done his honest deutie and sufficient diligence theirin, and theirfoir dischargit him of the said commissioun, and siclyk findis that the said James is super expendit in the sowme of fourtie merkis, by and attour the sowme of fourtie-four pundis, quhilk he receavit at his passing south fra the thesaurer, debursit be the said James to clerkis, and vthervayes cleirlie notifeit and vnderstand to the counsall, quhilk sowme of fourtie merkis, the counsall ordanis the thesaurer to remburse agane to the said James, quhilk sowme sall be allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis.

The samyn day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall forsaid, ordanis Maister George Andersone, thesaurer, to pay to James Mowatt the soume of threttie sex pundis, ellevin s., four d., debursit be him vpon the purchesing, passing, and extracting of the gift grantit to this burght be his maiestie, for exacting of ane impost to the help and reparatioun of the herbrie, and for rasing of the letteris vpon the continewation of the generall wapinschaw to November nixt, quhilk sowme salbe allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun presentit to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, be Maister Quintine Prestoun, professor of phisick, craving at thame the libertie and benefitt inrespect of his debilitie, being sumquhat strickin in aige, and sua not abill to accomplische the deutie without ane coadiutor, to interteine ane apothecar and his apothecarie chop, for the better furnesing of this burght and of the cuntrie, of all sort of physical and chirurgicall medicamentis, as the said supplicatioun at lenth proportis, quhairwith the counsall being aduysit, and reasoning theiranent at lenth, findis the desyre theirof reasonable ; and theirfor gawe and grantit, and be thir presentis gevis and grantis libertie and licence to the said Mr. Quintine, to interteine ane apothecar with his apothecarie chop, to the effect aboue specifeit, during the will of the counsall and the said Mr. Quintines guid behaviour, allanerlie.

The quhilk day, the counsall considering that thair is a gryt resort of the inhabitantis of this burght, bayth men and women, daylie to ane Johne Gordone, alias Williamsone, presentlie detenit in captivitie in the kirk wolt, as a manifest and oppin witche, quha continewallie, quhill he

was laitlie apprehendit and tane, gawe himself out as a dum man, and speris at the said Johne dyvers and sindrie thingis werray preiudiciall to the commoun pepill, quha hes bene, and is yit, daylie seducit and deludit be him, to the gryt dishonour of God, theirfor ordanit proclamatioun to be maid the morne, be the drum passand throw the haill rewis of the toune, that na inhabitant within this burght presvme nor tak vpon hand to confer to, nor speik with, the said Johne in tyme cumming in any sort, certifeing sic as sal be fund and notit conferring with him, sall be causit mak publict repentance in sack cloth, besyd the danger of the kingis lawis to be execut on thame with all rigour, conforme to the actis of parliament; and siclyk ordanis ane commissioun to be send for to his Maiestie, to be direct to the schireff, for sitting and haulding justice on him, conforme to the lawis of this realme, for his witchecraft. 2nd Sept., 1596.

14*th September*, 1596.

The quhilk day, the haill toun, bayth frie and vnfrie, being lawfullie warnit to this day be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the toun, wherwpoun the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuith, representand the haill bodie, it was exponit and declarit to thame be Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, that it wes the voit, consent, and ordinance of bayth the consallis of this burght, auld and new sessionis therof, that the toun salbe deuydit in tua seuerall halffis, to vit, the Evin Quarter and Futtie Quarter, with the four round tabillis, for the ane halff, and the Grene and Crukit Quarteris, for the vther halff, quhill the Grey Frier Kirk, callit the Midtoun Kirk, suld be repairit, quhilk is ordanit to be done with all convenient diligence, and than the toun to be deuydit agane in thrie partages and parochinis, and as it suld fall be lott, the ane halff to repair to the auld kirk, and the vther to the new kirk, and preiching to be on the Sabboth day, alsweill efter none as afoir none, in bayth the saidis kirkis, and on the tua ordinar vlk preiching dayes, preiching to be the ane day in the new kirk and the vther day in the auld kirk, quhill the said third kirk be repairit, and than the toun to be deuydit in thrie parochinis as said is; and theirfor inquyrit of the toun, convenit as said is, gif they wald consent and assent theirvnto, as to ane mater and actioun bayth godlie and proffitabill, quhilk desire the toun, assemblit as said is, thocht bayth godlie and reasonable, and willinglie assentit to the ordinance of the saidis counsallis and sessionis, na man say-

14th Sept., 1596.

ing in the contrar, and for effectuating therof, the persones and inhabitantis of the saidis Evin and Futtie Quarteris, and four round tabillis, convenit, nominat the said Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, to draw the lott for thame, quhilk of the saidis kirkis, and quhidder the bischop or Mr. Peter Blakburne, minister, suld fall to thame; and the persones of the Crukit and Grene Quarteris chesit Alexander Rutherfurd to draw the lott for thame, quhilk of the saidis kirkis and ministeris suld fall to thame; according to the quhilk nominatioun, the saidis Thomas Mengzeis and Alexander Rutherfurd, drawing the lottis, the said new kirk with the said Mr. Peter Blakburne, fell to the said Evin and Futtie Quarteris and four round tabillis, and the auld kirk with the bischop fell be lott to the said Grene and Crukit Quarteris; and heirefter the toun was exhortit be the prouest and minister to keip thair awin paroche kirkis on the Sabboth day, bayth afoir and efternone, and to be subject to the discipline of thair awin kirkis and ministrie, as is fallin to thame be lott, quhilk in the name and fear of God thay promeist so to do, quhairvpon the said Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, and the said Mr. Peter Blakburne tuik act of court and instrument.

16*th September*, 1596.

The samyn day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, ordanis Maister Johne Cheyne, Johne Collysone, George Strathauchyn, Mr. George Andersone, and remanent auditouris of the townis comptis, anno 1594, to heir the compt presentit this day to Henrie Forbes, vpon the deburs-mentis on the spycerie, confectionis, glassis, and wyne at the nativitie of the prince, and on the macking of catbandis and certan spearis and vtheris particularis thairin, and to subscrive the same, being fund be thame ane just compt, and than to be presentit agane to the counsall, and thairefter to be allocatt and allouit to the said Henrie, conforme to the mynd and tenour of the ordinances of counsall, gevin to him, for debursing of the sowmes theirin contenit, the said Henrie produceand the saidis ordinances, and schawand tham to the counsall.

20*th September*, 1596.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall fand that the tackismen of the small custumes of this burght, during the memorie of man, hes bene in paceable possession of vplifting and receaving of sex apillis

and sex engzeounis of ilk barrell appillis and engzeounis, transportit and brocht within this herbrie fra foran nationis, as for the mettage deutie, and that als weill of merchandis burgessis of this burght, as of strangeris, and theirfor ordanis Martine Howysone, present tackisman of the saidis small custumes, to be answerit and obeyit of the said mettage deutie of the engzeounis presentlie within this herbrie, inbrocht within the same be certan merchandis burgessis of this burght, in the bark pertening to Androw Allan, to be takin of the barrell be the townis commoun metstir. Persones of counsall present, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest; Mr. Richard Irvying, Alex^r^. Forbes, baillie; Alex^r^. Cullen, Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, Mr. Patrick Cheyne, Dauid Cargill, Mr. George Andersone, Alex^r^. Ewyn. 20th Sept 1596.

Eodem die.

The samyn day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis Dauid Cargill, dean of gild, to gif to Alex^r^. Tailzeour, alias Checkum, the townis commoun poist, ane garment and luiffray, of Scottis blew, having the townis armes on the schulder, and the expenssis to be maid be the said dean of gild theiron, ordanis the same to be allowit to him in his comptis.

22*nd November*, 1596.

The said day, in presence of honorabill men, Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, and Mr. Alex^r^. Cullen, ane of the baillies of the burght of Abirdene, comperit Thomas Murray, burges of the said burght, sone and air to vmquhill Andro Murray, burges of the same burght, and renuncit and *simpliciter* demittit in the handis of the said prouest and baillies, his richt and titill quhilk he hes as air to his said vmquhill father, guid sir, or ony vtheris his predicessouris hes, had, or may pretend to have, to the alterage and cheplanrie of Sanct Saluatour, situat within Sanct Nicholas paroche kirk of Abirdene, fundat be his predicessouris, and of the patronage of the said altarage, haill annuel rentis and emolumentis belanging theirto, in favoris of the prouest, baillies, counsall, and commonitie of the said burght, to be imployit and mortifeit be thame, and vptackin *ad pios vsus*, sua that it sall be lesum to the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall to vplift the annuel rentis and fewmaillis belanging theirto, to the effect forsaid, to be extendit in maist ampill forme of dimissioun: quhairvpon William Dwn, dean of gild, in name of the said towne of Abirdene, tuik act of court and instrument.

12th January, 1596.

12*th January*, 1596.

The said day, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, in presence of the haill toun, convenit this day in thair heid court, opinlie declairit and exponit that his hienes, and lordis of secreit consall, had deuysit and ordanit generall wapinschawingis, to be maid and kepit vniuersallie throchout all the pairtis of this realme, als weill to burght as to land, vpon the secund day of Februar nixt, and that his hienes proclamatioun is direct out theirvpon, commanding and charging all his hienes lieges, als weill to burght as land, regalitie as royaltie, to prepair thame selffis and be in full reddines to mak wappinschawis, and gif mustures, vpon the said secund day of Februar nixt, weill bodin in fear of weir, in presence of the prouest and baillies of burrowis, stewartis, schireffis, and vtheris commissionaris to landwart, vnder the pane of tynsell of lyff, landis, and gudis, and that for resisting and withstanding of the foran preparationis threatned of a lang tyme bygane, for prosequtioun of thair detestabill conspiracies aganis Christ and his evangell, quha ar presentlie in reddines, intending to arryue in this iland to move a publict wear aganis God, his trew religioun, his Maiesties persone and authoritie, and all the guid subjectis of this realme, professing the same religioun with his hienes, to the ruine and conquest of this ancient kingdome and libertie, quhilk the same hes inioyit sa mony agis, that it may be subject heirefter to the slaiffrie and tyrranie of that proud natioun of the Spangeardis, quha hes maid sa vnlauchtfull conqueis in dyvers partis of the wardill, as in the letteris publischeit thairanent at mair lenth was contenit, and intimat the same to the haill toun, convenit as said is, commanding and ordaining thame and euerie ane of thame, for obedience to his Maiesties charge and proclamatioun, that thay prepair thame selffis, and be in reddines agane the said secund day of Februar nixt, weill bodin in fear of wear, with hagbuttis, jackis, spearis, and steill bonattis, reddie to gif thair wapinschaw, and folow the directioun of the prouest, baillies, and magistrattis, and sic as sall be appoyntit be thame capitanes and commanderis, as they will eschew the perrell of the said proclamatioun, and schaw thair deutifull obedience to his Maiesties charge; and that nane of the inhabitantis of this burght present him selff the said day to the wapinschaw and musture, vtherwayis armit than with jack, corslett, lang speir, or hagbut, and that they present nocht the wapinschaw with halbertis nor Dense aixis; and lykvayes intimat to the merchandis, trafficquaris of this

burght, that thay bring hame pulder, bullettis, corslettis, and all vther kynd of armour, and mak pennie theirof to the lieges of this realme vpon reasonable prices, according to the said proclamatioun. 12th January, 1596.

14*th January*, 1596.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, folowing the directioun of the actis of parliament maid anent the selling of wynes, be the quhilkis the prouest and baillies of burrowis ar ordanit to sett doun the pryces on all wynes cumming within this burght, as the saidis actis at mair lenth beris, and having consideratioun quhow the wynes laitlie imbrocht within this herbrie be certan merchandis therof, may be sauld; efter detfull deliberatioun had thairanent, statut and ordanit, that na tavernar, ventar, nor sellar of wyne within this burght sell any wyne darrer nor sex s. viii. d. the poynt, according as the same is sauld in vther townis be south this burght, and that they sell na wyne bott with the joug messour; with certificatioun to sic as hapinis to be convict in contravening heirof, sall incur the vnlaw of fyve pundis, *toties quoties*, and this statute to induire during the will of the consall, and quhill thay tak further ordour, allanerlie, and ordanit intimatioun to be maid heirof to the nichtbouris, be the handbell.

16*th January*, 1596.

The said day, the haill toun, bayth brether of gild and craftismen, being convenit within the tolbuith, and aduysing anent the forme quhow the purell of this burgh salbe sustenit, referrit the ordour to be takin theiranent to the consall, ministrie, sessioun, and dekynis of craftis, oblesing thame to folow and vnderly sic ordour and conclusioun, as they suld sett doun theranent.

28*th January*, 1596.

The said day, the consall hes appoyntit and nominat the persones folowing to be collectouris of the voluntar contributioun and taxatioun grantit to the help of the puir, tovit, Johne Fergussone, younger, for the Grene quarter; Alex^{r}. Burnett, for the Futtye quarter; Mr. Patrik Skeyne, for the Cruikit quarter; and Andro Knowis, for the Evin quarter, quhilkis persones compering, acceptit the collectioun of the said taxatioun in and vpon thame.

28th January, 1596.

The same day, the consall ordanit Thomas Rany and his wyff to be tackin and careit throcht the streittis of the toun, bund to ane cart, with ane croun of paper on ilk ane of thair heidis, contening this circumscriptioun in gryt letteris, *for thift and ressett of thift*, and thairefter to be perpetuallie baneist this burght, and this to be done the morne.

The said day, the consall ordanit the dean of gild to answer Andro Leslye, portar of the college, of the soume of fyve merkis, to ring ilk Wednesday at tua houris efter none, the Gray Freris bell to the consall, for the space of ane quarter of ane hour, with provisioun that the said Androw sall nocht be answerit therof except he ring the said bell ilk nicht at nyn houris at even, and ilk day at fyve houris in the morning, during the space of ane quarter of ane hour.

18*th February*, 1596.

The said day, the consall considering that malefactouris and enorme persones, theiffes, and ressettaris, in tymes bygane hes past vnpunischit, efter they have bene convict of odious crymes and offences, sum meriting death, vtheris banischement, scurging, burning, and tormenting, be the schiref, prouest, and baillies of this burght, ather of thame according to thair awin power and jurisdictioun, for laik and want of ane persone to execut the sentence pronuncit aganis the offendar and malefactour, quhom to find it wes difficill, be reasoune of the hard intreating and vssing of sic as hes bene sic officemen and executouris in tymes bygane, be sum of the nichtbouris and inhabitantis of this burght, of the meanest and simplest sort, without knawledge, in offending of the said executour and officeman, ather be word or deid, sum calling him hangman, with many gryter opprobrious appellationis, hounding him aff the toun, casting stanes at him, and vthervayes injuring of him be way of deid, quhairby the executour hes bene forcit to leaue the toune and desert his office, hes theirfor chosin Johne Justice to be executour of the sentences of baneisment, scurging, tormenting, or vtherwayes punisching of malefactouris be the prouest and baillies, quha lykewayes salbe executour of the sentences and domes pronuncit be the schireff aganis persones condampnit to die or to be scurgit; and to the effect he may execut his office the better without offence, ordanit proclamatioun to be maid at the mercatt croce of the burght, that na nichtbour theirof, man nor woman, young nor auld, tak vpon hand or

presome to offend the said Johne Justice, ather be word or deid, in forme aboue rehersit, or any maner of way that may caus him desert his office, certifeing sic as salbe fund to contravene the same, salbe puneschit with all regour as the consall sall deuyse, and that his hous salbe in the little hous vnder the tolbuyth stair, the dur theirof to be reparit, and ane lok to be put theron. 18th Feb., 1596.

4th April, 1597.

The said day, the haill toun, bayth burgessis of gild and craftismen, being convenit in the tolbuyth to thair heid court, for the maist pairt representand the haill bodye of the toun, being warnit siclyk be the hand bell, to the effect vnderwrittin, consentit to the bying of the four commoun mylnis of this burght, fra Gilbert Mengzeis of Petfoddelis, heretabill possessour therof, and ilk man voting efter the ordour of the sute roll, votit to by the saidis mylnis, and to gif fyve thousand merkis theirfor, to be payit with the four thousand and fyve hundreth merkis restand to the town be Alex^r^. Ewyn, and the vther fyue hundreth merkis to be payit furth of the reddiest of the townis rentis, and declarit the same to be a verray proffitabill blok for the town, quhilk wald grytumlie augment the patrimonie and yeirlie rent theirof, and theirfor willit the counsall to deall theiranent with the said Gilbert Mengzeis, and to offer and gif to him the said soume of fyve thousand merkis theirfor, gif he wald agrie thairwith, oblesing thame to vnderly and fulfill quhatsumeuer the counsall did in that mater with the said Gilbert.

25th April, 1597.

The quhilk day, the haill towne being lauchfullie warnit to this day be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the town, quhairopon the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodye of the town, gawe full power and commissioun to Maister Johne Cheyne, Maister Patrik Cheyne, Alexander Forbes, James Settoun, Andro Scherar, Alex^r^. Stevin, Dauid Fergussoun, Johne Layng, James Stewart, elder, and George Elphingstoun, saidler, or any sex of thame coniunctlie, to sett doun methis and marchis of propertie betuixt the landis of the commountie and fredome of this burght, and the landis of Stanyvod, pertening to Andro Fraser of Stanyvod, and to end with the said Andro Fraser theiranent, as thay or ony sex of thame sall

25th April, 1597.

think expedient for the weill of the town, for extinguisching of all actioun of law that may result or follow heirefter betuixt the toun and the said Andro Fraser, and quhowsoeuer the saidis commissionaris, or ony sex of thame coniunctlie, findis, decernis, and concludis theiranent, the haill town, convenit as said is, obleist thame to stand and abyd theirat, but reclamatioun, quhairvpon Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, tuik act of court and instrument.

Eodem die.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit as said is, consentit to the bying of the Trinitie Freris place within this burght, yardis and kirk theirof, and willit and desyrit the prouest and baillies to deall with the heretabill proprietaris of the said place, and to gif the sowme of sex hundreth merkis theirfor, of the reddiest of the patrimonie and yeirlie rent of this burght, gif the same may be had of that price, and na taxatioun to be stentit nor impostit vpon the inhabitantis for bying theirof, vpon the quhilk lykvayes the said Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, cravit act of court and instrument.

4th May, 1597.

The said day, it being vnderstand to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, that the burrowis of Edinburght, Perth, Dundee, and vtheris weill reformit and governit townis of this realme, hes commodious and convenient houssis, callit the townis hous or commoun clerkis chalmer of the burght, maist ewous and neir to the tolbuyth and hous of justice, quhairvnto the magistrattis of the burght, and oftymes the counsall of the samyn, frequentlie reparis, for aduysing of the proces and actionis depending befoir the magistrattis, consulting and deliberating oftymes vpon the effaris of the burght, and for sichting of the townis registeris and court buikis their put, kepit, and placit, and that the clerkis chalmer of this burght, presentlie occupeit be him, and quhilk was occupeit obefoir be his predicessouris thir dyvers yeris bygane, for the quhilk thair is yeirlie payit out of the commoun gude be the thesaurer twentie four pundis, is now becum ruynous, navayes decent nor cumlie to the prouest, baillies, and counsall to repair theirvnto, to the effect aboue specifeit, nather yit sure nor sufficient to keip the registeris and court buikis of this burght, in that Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk theirof, be reasoun of the insufficiencie

of the said hous, is compellit to keip the said registeris and buikis in his awin duelling hous, theirfor the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall, folowing the exampill of the saidis burrowis, findis it meit and expedient that thair salbe ane hous biggit of tymmer, on the wast gavill of the tolbuyth, tua stair hicht, and [ ] futtis in breid, the laichest of the saidis tua stairis to be the wreitting hous for the clerk of this burght, his deputtis and servandis, and to keip the registeris, buikis, and proces, with ane studie in the end theirof for the clerk himself, out of the quhilk laichest stair, thair salbe ane dur to enter to the counsalhous, and the hichest stair to be ane hous quhairin the prouest and baillies sall adyse the proces, and the counsall, as occasioun salbe offered, consult and deliberat vpon the effaris of the toun, and vnder the lachest of the saidis stairis, ane convenient place for the flescheris to hing and put out thair fleschis to be sauld, and keping and preserving the same from rayn and wadder; and their the commoun clerkis chalmer of this burght to be biggit, with commodious and convenient lichtis and passage theirvnto, as a place maist commodious theirfor, and ordanis the same to be done with sic convenient tyme, as the necessitie of the gryter effaris of this burght will permit, and with the reddiest of the commoun rent and patrimonie of the samen, that salbe in the thesaureris handis, and with the accidentis that sall fall to the dean of gild for the tyme, and the expenssis to be maid thairvpon be the saidis thesaurer and dean of gild, to be allowit thame in thair comptis. Persones of counsall present, Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest; Maister Patrik Cheyne, Maister Alex^r^. Cullen, George Knowis, Alex^r^. Jaffray, baillies; Alex^r^. Cullen, Dauid Fergussoun, Maister Gilbert Gray, Patrik Forbes, Walter Collysoun, Andro Scherar, William Dwn, Alex^r^. Burnett, Alex^r^. Kempt, Johne Layng, George Elphingstoun, saidler, and Andro Watsoun, wricht. 4th May, 1597.

5th May, 1597.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall past and visiet the commoun gett passand fra the Castelhill of this burght towardis Futtie, betuixt the croft callit Roundabout, pertening to Gilbert Henrie, and the yard and barne pertening to the airis of vmquhill Patrik Strathauchyn, baxster, and after ocular inspectioun of the said gett, and diligent consideratioun had be the counsall of quhat breid the same suld be of, ordanit the said gett to be in breid betuixt the said barne and yard, and the said

5th May, 1597.

croft callit Roundabout, tuentie four futtis in breid, in all tyme cumming; and becaus the possessouris of the barne of the said vmquhill Patrik Strathauquhyn, hes extenditt he barne yard theirof at the south end of the same, vpon the said gett, theirfor ordanis that pairt of the said dyck, sa far as it extendit on the said gett, forganis the eist gavell theirof, to be instantlie demoleschit and biggit vpon the kingis hie gett.

31*st August*, 1597.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, aduysitlie considdering that the institutioun and erectioun of the grammer school of this burght, and all wther burrowis of this realme, hes that previlege and prerogative that thair is na uther school within the burght, except the musick school, without a licence had and obteinit of the maister of the grammer school, and theirfor ordanit that their sal be na maister nor teicher of any school within this burght in tyme cumming, (except of the sang school), bot sic as sal be subalterne to the maister of the grammer school, and sic as sall haue gude will and licence of the maister of the grammer schooll to hauld the samen.

7th September, 1597.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, being crediblie informit that Edinburght, Leith, and dyuers vther pairtis of Lowdian and south pairtis of this realme, at the gude plesour of God, is infectit with the plaig of pestilence, and that the gryter perrell that may cum to this burght, is fearit to be the frequent cumming of boittis, craris, and vther weschillis fra the south pairtis: and considdering that daylie thair cummis and resortis to the herbrie of this burght, fra dyuers pairtis of the south cuntrie, dyvers craris and boittis: for remeid theirof, and to eschew all perrell that may ensew and cum be sea to this burght, hes thocht gude and expedient, that thair sall be no tred nor haulding vsit betuixt the nichbouris of this burght and the merchandis of the south pairtis of this realme, and that na merchand nor craftisman fra this day furth, sall fraucht or bring any schip, crair, or boit to this burght and herbrie fra ony port or hevin be south; and in caice any boit or crair cum from any port be south to this raid, not to be sufferit to cum within the herbrie: and gif any enter in the herbrie, navayes be sufferit to remane thairin, bot to be instantlie repellit and put bak agane; and

heirvnto the town being present, warnit be the handbell, representand the haill bodie, grantit and consentit, na man opponand in the contrar. 7th Sept., 1597.

21*st September*, 1597.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that Willeam Dwn, dean of gild, hes diligentlie and cairfullie dischargit him of his office of deanrie of gild, and hes painfullie travellit theirin to the advancing of the commoun gude, and besyddis this, hes extraordinarlie takin panis on the birning of the gryt numer of witches brint this yeir, and on the four pirrattis, and bigging of the port on the brig of Dee, reparing of the Grayfreris kirk and stepill theirof, and thairby hes bene abstractit fra hes tred of merchandice continewallie sen he was electit in the said office, theirfor in recompence of hes extraordinarie panis, and in satisfactioun theirof, (not to induce ane preparatiue to deanes of gild to crawe a recompance heireftir), bot to incurage vtheris to travell als diligentlie in the discharge of thair office, grantit and assignit to him the soume of fourtie-sevin pundis thrie s. four d., awand be him of the rest of his compt, of the vnlawis of the persones convict for slaying of blakfische, and dischargit him theirof be thir presentis for ever.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis that in all tyme cumming, the gild wyne syluer that sall happin heirefter to be receavit be the dean of gild of this burght, of the burgessis of gild, to vit, of ilk ane, four pundis for his gild wyne, sall be imployit and bestowit in all tyme heirefter, to the support of honest decayit burgessis of gild, and merchandis that hes bene of honest behaviour within this burght, and decayit in temporall substance be the provisioun of God, and to na vther vse commoun of the town, and theirfor ordanit the sowme of four scoir tuelf pundis, gevin vp be Willeam Dwn present dean of gild of this burght, to be takin out of his comptis of deanrie of gild, bestowit vpon any vther vse nor for support of decayit burgessis: and to this effect remembering that George Strathauchyn, quha buir office of baillerie within this burgh dyvers yeris, was ane of the counsall theirof, at sindrie tymes, meritit weill in this commoun wealth, and was ane honest merchand trafficquer, now decayit in temporall substance at the plesure of God, and als that Johne Fergusson, elder, merchand burges of this burght, is decayit lykvayes at the plesure of God, in temporall substance, ordanit

21st Sept., 1597.

the said George and Johne to be supportit and helpit, and theirfor ordanit the said sowme of four scoir tuelf pundis, receavit be the said William Dwn, for the gild wyne of the brether of gild, admittit within the yeir of his office, with aucht pundis theirto, mackand in the haill the sowme of ane hundreth pundis, to be gevin to the said George Stathauchyn, and the sowme of fourtie pundis to be gevin to the said Johne Fergussoun to his support: and becaus it is vnderstand to the counsall that the said William Dwn, dean of gild, is super expendit in his comptis, and hes not frie siluer in his handis, thay ordane Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, to pay the saidis sowmes, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, for the labouris and panis tackin be Gilbert Bairnis, thair commoun servand, in avayting on the witches, and vtheris commoun turnis of the town, sen Michaelmes last bypast, knawin to thame, ordanit the thesaurer to gif to the said Gilbert the sowme of fourtie merkis, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

26th September, 1597.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, being convenit in the counsalhous, examining the restis in the handis of Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, of his thesaurarie comptis sen Michaelmas last bypast, by and attour the soume of four thousand merkis, quhilk is destinat and mortifeit to be laid vpon land and proffitt, to the vphauld of the Brig of Dee; findis restand in his handis, by and attour the said soume, the soume of thrie scoir nyntene pundis; and examining quhat sowmes of money Willeam Dwn, dean of gild, had receavit sen the futting and subscryving of his comptis of deanrie of gild, findis that he hes receavit fra the officieris, in compleit payment of the thrie taxationis collectit be thame, and for the townis pairt of the compositionis of frie craftismen and prenteissis, be the space of thir tua yeris last bypast, the soume of fourscoir fyftene pundis, tua s., four d.; theirof to be bestowit on the mending and reparing of the Gray Freris Kirk tuentie pundis; sua that the haill soume in the handis of the said thesaurer, by the said four thousand merkis mortifeit to the vse forsaid, and in the handis of the said dean of gild, extendis to ane hundreth fyftie four pundis, quhairof thair is to be gevin to Robert Gareaucht, messinger, for his service this yeir bypast, in the mater of the blak fische, sex

pundis, threttene s., four d., and the soume of ane hundreth pundis the prouest, baillies, and consall ordanis to be gevin to the nixt magistrattis and thesaurer, to be imployit for macking of the expenssis of the commissionar to be chosin for this burght, for keping of the approcheing parliament, proclamit to be hauldin at Edinburght the first of November nixt to cum; and becaus it was vnderstand to the prouest, baillies, and counsal, that Maister Thomas Mollysoun, commoun clerk of this burght, had extraordinarlie travellit this yeir past, in macking of ane register of the annuellis, sumtyme belanging to the cheplanis, and now to this burght, and als in the mater of the witches, theirfor ordanit the said Mr. Thomas to be answerit for his pains and labouris, be the said thesaurer and dean of gild, of the soume of fourtie pundis of the saidis restis, and Dauid Mar for his panis and service in the townis effaris, sevin pundis, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair comptis. 26th Sept., 1597.

23*rd November*, 1597.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall findis that Maister Willeam Skene, maister of the sang school, sall serve bayth the kirkis in uptacking of the psalme theirin, everie Sonday, the ane kirk be himselff, and the uther be the doctour, or sum of his discippullis, that can discharge himselff theirin sufficientlie, and theirfor ordanit the said Mr. Willeam to hawe ten merkis of augmentatioun to his stipend of sexscoir merkis, to be payit to him be the thesaurar, of the reddiest of the patrimonie of the town; and becaus the last yeir, their was ane alterage gevin to the said Mr. Willeam for the said augmentatioun, inrespect he sustenit a doctour theirfor, ordanis the said Mr. Wm. to discharge the said altarage to the towne agane, becaus the thesaurer is assignit to pay him the said ten merkis of augmentatioun out of the townis commoun gude.

11*th January*, 1597.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, auld and new counsallis, remembering that thair was ane act and ordinance maid obefoir, vpon the fourt day of May last bypast, in this instant yeir of God, fourscoir seventeine yeiris, ordaning ane hous to be biggit of tymmer on the wast gavell of the tolbuyth of this burght, tua stair hicht, and ten futtis in breid, to be the commoun clerkis chalmer of this burght, and ane hous for avysing of the proces compending befor the prouest and bailleis of this burght, and that

1th January, 1597. inrespect that the chalmer than occupiet, and as yit occupeit be Mr. Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk, is auld and ruynous, and alvayes vncumlie to the prouest and baillies to repair into, as at mair lenth was contenit in the said act, theirfor ratifeit, affermit, and approvit the said act and ordinance in all poyntis; and ordanit Dauid Cargill, present dean of gild, with all convenient diligence, to by tymmer and materiallis for bigging of the said hous, vpon the said wast gavill of the said tolbuyth, and to enter to the bigging of the same, quhowsone the wadder will permit, to be biggit in forme and maner specifeit in the said former act, and the expenssis to be maid be the said dean of gild theirvpon, the counsall ordanis the same to be allowit to him in his comptis.

25th January, 1597.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsell, vpon the supplicatioun presentit to thame be Dauid Andersone, yonger, bering that he hade devysit ane instrument, of his awin ingyne, to draw and mak dyellis or sone horolages, and that he wes willing to mak ane on the foirwall of the said burgh, quhilk suld schaw houris very justlie be the sone, with euery moneth of the yer, the langest, schortest, and equinoctiall dayis; and quhen the same suld be perfytit and endit, he wald refer his recompance for his panis and labouris to the guid discretioun of the prouest, bailleis, and counsell, and at their plesour; quhilk being red in counsell, and considderit advysedlie, thocht the desyir of the said supplicatioun resonable, and allowit of the said Dauidis intentioun, ordering him to proceid in the perfyting, ending, and vpputting of ane dyell or sone horolage one the tolbuyith, one sic pairt thairoff as salbe thocht meit and expedient; and thaireftir the said Dauid to be recompensit for his pane and verk, according to the dignitie and sufficience thairoff, be the guid discretioun and consideratioun of the prouest, bailleis, and counsall.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsell ordanit the dean of gyld to pay Robert Lyndsey, pylot, the sowme of fourtie merkis, for ane gratitude for the sey kart presentit this day be him to the prouest, bailleis, and counsell, conteining money guid profitable vreitis, instructione, and devyses necessar for sic as treddis on sey, to ony forane countreis, viz.: the haill universall see kart of Europ, Affrica, and Asaia, and new found landis of America, with the townes armes theiron affixit, quhilk the

prouest, bailleis, and counsell ressauit presentlie fra the said Robert, and ordanit the same to remane in the handis and custodie of Mr. Thomas [Mollisoun], commoun clerk, quhill thay appoynt ane commoun place to affix the samen, quhilk sowme of fourtie merkis salbe allowit to the deane of gild in his comptis. 25th January, 1597.

17*th February*, 1597.

James, be the grace of God King of Scottis, to our louittis, Gilbert Guthrie, messinger, our shireffis in that pairt, coniunctlie and seuerallie, speciallie constitute greting: Forsamekill as in our parliament hauldin in the moneth of December last bypast, we, and the estaittis theirof, considdering of the gryt impediment that occurris yeirlie, be ressoune that sic nobill men and burrowis, hes plaice and woitt in parliament, and conventionis, as for the maist pairt being ignorant of the ordour and prioritie of placis, according to the antiquitie of thair houssis, and the guid offices that thay had servit in the commoun weill in tyme bygane, and that heirof betuixt nobill men their hes interuenit sindrie controuerseis, for rescewing quhairof, we, with aduyse of our estaittis, hes gewin and grantit full power and commissioun to Francis, Erll of Erroll, Lord Hay, constable of our realme, and his deputtis, George Erl Merscheall, Lord Keytht Merscheall, and his deputtis; Alex^r^. Lord Fyvie, president of our college of justice; Mr. Johne Lyndsay of Balcarchis, secreter; Mr. Johne Skene, clerk of our register; Sir Dauid Lindsay of the Mount, knicht, lyoun king of armis, and the maister of seremoneis, or ony four of thame, to conveine in our burght of Edinburgh, the fyfteine day of May nixt to cum, and their to decyd and determinat anent the prioritie and ordour of plaices in parliament and conventionis, that everie nobill man and commissioner of burrowis may tak thair places, according as the same sall be sett doun to thame be the saidis commissioneris. and to the effect that nane be preiudgit in using his lawfull defenssis, and productioun of his evidentis for signifeing of the gryt antiquitie and nobilitie of thair housis, it is thocht meit and expedient be the saidis estaitis, that all nobill men quhatsumevir, and burrowis, as thay have regard to their places in parliamentis and conventionis, sall ather be thame selffis, or sum uther in thair names, sufficientlie instructit, compeir befoir the saidis commissioneris the said fyfteine day of May nixt to cum, quhair thair alledgiances sal be hard and thair evidentis sichtit, and everie mannis plaice appoyntit to

7th Feb., 1597.

him, according as the antiquitie of thair houses sall signifie: bot certificatioun to sic as sall nocht be present at the day, that thay sall not heireftir be hard nevir, in ony maner of way, to querrell or chalange ony uther place in parliament or conventioun heireftir, nor yat quhilk sall be determinat be the saidis commissioneris, as in the said act of parliament at mair lenth is contenit: our will is, (&c. &c.) Gevin wnder our signet at Edinburgh the xxix. of December, and of our regne the xx. yeir 1597, *per actum parliamenti.*

16*th March*, 1597.

The quhilk day, anent the complaynt gevin in to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, by dyveris of the nichtbouris and commvnitie of this burght, aganis Mareoun Rolland, relict of vmquhill Robert Scherar, for the wrangous stricking out and bigging of ane backyett, in the eist dyck of the yaird of the tenement presentlie occupeit be hir, quhilk sumtyme pertenit to vmquhill Katherine Rattrie, lyand in the eist heid of the Castelgett of this burght, quhilk backyett is presentlie struckin out be the said Marioun, on the wast syd of the littill rew, callit Jackis rew, quhilk passis fra the Hie Street, outwith the Justice Port, to the Castelhill, quhair never na backyett was biggit obefoir, to the gryt preiudice of the towne, to have any backyettis or passagis to the Castelhill furth of the yardis of the tenementis lyand in the said eistheid of the Castelgett, as at mair lenth was contenit in the said complaynt: Quhilk being red in counsall, and thay having considerit the same, past and visiett the said backyett, and fand that it was navayes lesum nor tollerabill to the said Marioun, nor to any vther person, possessour or occupear of any tenement or yard lyand in the said heid of the Castelgett, marching with the said Castlehill, to haue or big any backyettis, bot that all the saidis back dyckis salbe close, and na backyettis thairin; and that it hes bene in all tymes bygane, past memorie of man, justlie and vpon gude considerationis moving the magistrattis of this burght for the tyme, denyit and refusit to dyvers and sindrie personis, occupearis of the saidis landis and yardis merchand with the said Castelhill, to gif thame licence to haue or big any backyettis in the eist dyckis of thair saidis tenementis marching with the said hill; and thairfor ordanit the said Marioun to big vp and condampne the said backyett presentlie struckin out be hir in the eist dyck of hir said yard, within fourtie aucht houris.

24th April, 1598.

24th April, 1598.

The said day, the prouest and bailleis ratefeis and approvis the act and statut maid obefoir that na burgess of gild of this burght sall wear bleu bonattis, wnder the pane of ane unlaw of fyve pundis, and intimat the said ordinance to the toun convenit this day.

22nd September, 1598.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, counsall, and auditouris of the townis comptis, being convenit in the counsel hous, examining and hering the comptis of Willeam Lorymer, thesaurer, chosin and electit at the feist of Michaelmes last bypast, of his intromissioun with the patrimonie and rent of the town, doubill gressumes and entres syluer of the fischingis and land tackis hauldin theirof, fra the day and dait of his electioun to the day and dait heirof, his charge and discharge being hard, sene, considderit, laid, and vnderstand, it was fund that the said Willeam was restand auchtand to the town ane hundreth thrie scoir fyfteine pundis four s. aucht d., by and attour the soume of four hundreth four scoir thrie pundis sex s. viii. d., quhilk the said Willeam Lorymar, thesaurer, is ordanit to pay to the nixt thesaurer of this burght, betuixt and the feist of Martemes nixt to cum, to mak out the soume of four thousand merkis mortefeit and destinat to be laid vpon land and proffitt, to the vphauld of the brig of Dee, quhilk soume of four hundreth four scoir thrie pundis sex s. aucht d., to be payit be him to the nixt thesaurer, at the said feist of Mertimes, with the particular sowmes eftermentionat, gevin out vpon actis to the persones *respectiue* vnderwrittin, to be payit to the nixt thesaurer of this burght at the feist of Witsonday nixt to cum, viz.: the soume of thrie hundreth threttie-thrie pundis sex s. aucht d., restand awand be Alex^r^. Rutherfuird; the some of thrie hundreth threttie-thrie pundis sex s. aucht d., restand auchtand be Patrik Forbes, younger, thrie hundreth threttie-thrie pundis sex s. aucht d., restand auchtand be Willeam Mar, elder; the soume of tua hundreth thrie scoir sex pundis threttene s. four d., auchtand be James Mengzeis; the sowme of fyftie pundis, auchtand be Martine Howysone, with the sowmes efter specifeit, viz.: four hundreth thrie scoir sex pundis, restand auchtand be George Knowis, vpon infeftment gevin to the town be the said George of his halff nettis salmound fisching of the Raik; the sowme of tua hundreth pundis restand auchtand be Johne Leslye to the town, for the quhilk the

22nd Sept., 1598.

town is infeft in his land, lyand in the Natherkirkget, with the sowme of tua hundreth pundis addetit be Johne Allan, cultellar, vpon infeftment gevin be him to the town of his forland lyand on the north syd of the Castelgett, extendis and amountis to the said sowme of four thousand merkis: quhilk soume of four thousand merkis at the fute of the compt of Dauid Fergusson last thesaurer, subscryvit and endit vpon the xxii. day of September, 1597; and be ane act, maid with consent of the haill communitie, the xxvi. day of the said moneth of September, the yeir of God [ ] was mortefeit to the effect aboue rehersit, to the vphauld of the said brig wark: Lyk as now, the prouest, bailleis, and auditouris of the said Willeam Lorymeris, thesaurer, comptis forsaid, yit as obefoir, destinattis and mortifeis the said soume of four thousand merkis to the effect befoir mentionat, ordaning the samen to be vpliftit furth of the handis of the particular persones aboue writtin, at the feist of Witsonday nixt to cum, and than to be amassit and laid togidder in ane soume, and laid vpon land and proffitt quhair the same may be commodiouslie had in ane place, be the advise of the prouest, baillies, and consall, at the said terme of Witsonday, to the sustentatioun and vphauld of the said brig wark, and navayes to be brokin, nor vthervayes imployit, bot perpetuallie mortifeit to the effect forsaid, and as to the said sowme of ane hundreth thrie scoir fyftene pundis four s. aucht d., the prouest, bailleis, consall, and auditouris of the comptis, hes ordanit the said Willeam Lorymer to deburse and pay the same as folowis, viz.: consideratioun being had be the prouest, bailleis, and counsall of the gude service and panis takin be Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk, in dyvers and syndrie effaris and actionis concerning the weelfair of this burght, and quhow he painfulie travellit thairin vnderhand to thame sen the feist of Michaelmes last bypast, and of the gude service and painfull travellis takin be Walter Robertsone, substitut clerk, in the townis effaris during the said space, and als of the panis takin be Dauid Mar, in remembrance of thair saidis panis and labouris, thay have ordanit the said Willeam Lorymer to pay to thame the sowme of fourtie pundis, viz.: to the said Mr. Thomas fourtie merkis, to the said Walter Robertsoun ten markis, and ten markis to the said Dauid Mar; and vpon dyvers supplicationis gevin in to thame be the persones eftermentionat, decayit merchandis and craftismen of this burght in temporall substance, vtheris commoun serwandis of this burght, ordanis the said William Lorymer

to pay to Issobella Menzeis relict of George Cummyng, officer of this burght to hir support, sex pundis; to Nicoll Inglis, merchand, threttene pundis sex s. viii. d.; to William Norie, merchand, threttene pundis sex s. viii. d.; to Dauid Reid, to his support, tuentie pundis; to James Watt, tailzeour, for his help, sex lib.; to Andro Crombie, merchand, ten pundis; to James Moyses, sex pundis; to Andro Inglis, commoun swescheman of this burght, to by him a luiffray, ten pundis; to Alex^r. Checkum, commoun poist, fyve pundis to help to by him a slucht of blew, and to allow to Andro Hay, officiar, nyn pundis, bestowit be him vpon the macking of slottis and bandis to the meill mercat, with sex pundis for the wyne spent at the hering of the comptis; and becaus the prouest, baillies, and consall of this burght, sen Michaelmes last, hes causit the said William Lorymer, thesaurer, for relief of the haill inhabitantis of this burght, deburse of the reddiest of the rent and patrimonie of the town, the sowme of tua hundreth pundis for a discharge gevin be his Maiestie to this burght, of thair remaining at hame fra the raid of Dumfreis, quhilk suld hawe bene payit be a commoun stent, to hawe bene stentit on the haill inhabitantis of this burght, lyk as taxtaris war chosin be thame for stenting of the same, vpon the [ ] day of [ ] last bypast, as the act maid thairanent beris, and lettres of horning rasit theirvpon, to charge the stentaris to stent the said sowme, and the inhabitantis to pay the same, conforme to the stent roll: and lykvayes hes causit the said William Lorymer, thesaurer, to deburse the sowme of ane hundreth pundis for releif of the merchandis and brether of gild of this burght, quhilk suld hawe bene stentit vpon thame for sending of ane commissionar to Edinburgh, anent the mater of the custumes and bulzeoun, as the act maid thairanent, of the dait the [ ] day of November, 1597 yeris beris; be reasoun of the quhilk debursment thair hes bene na mair frie syluer to the foir, nor as is aboue writtin at the fute of this comptis: theirfor thay hawe left to the discretioun and wyse deliberatioun of the intrant magistrattis and counsall, as the necessitie of the effaris and bissines of the town sall require, to stent the said thrie hundreth pundis efter the forme and tenour of the actis maid thairanent, and to vplift the sam as salbe thocht meit and expedient be thame, and that be reasoun that the payment of the said sowme of tua hundreth pundis, payit for the discharge of the said raid of Drumfreis, was ane taxatioun imposit be his Maiestie, quhilk suld na vthervayes hawe bene

22nd Sept., 1598.

22nd Sept., 1598.

payit, bot be a taxatioun, according to ane ordinance of the generall conventioun of burrowis, prohibiting that ony pairt of the commoun gude of burrowis suld be imployit in the payment of stentis imposit be his Maiestie, bot onlie imployit vpon the commoun warkis within burght, and commoun effaris thairof allanerlie.

26th September, 1598.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, counsall, and auditouris of comptis, remembering that Maister Robert Howye had diligentlie dischargit him selff in the office and functioun of the ministrie, and hes receavit na remembrance nor revard of the town for his said sevin yeris service, saiff onlie his bair stipend, and understanding that the said Mr. Robert may be proffitabill to this burght quhair he now duellis, to vit, in town of Dundy, baytht at his Maiesties handis as uthervayes: theirfor thocht meit and expedient that the said Maister Robert sall be rememberit in sum reasonable measure, to vit, with ane syluer caiss weyand tuelff unces, quhairin the townes armes sal be ingrauit, quhilk is to be maid to him with the annuellis and compt theirof, restand in the hand of Alex^r. Crukshank, collector of the annuellis of this burght.

The prices of gold and syluer proclamit at Edinburgh the 18 day of December, 1598, to hawe course and passage theirefter.

Syluer.

The Spanis Ryell,	45s. 0d.
The croce dolour,	44s. 8d.
The prince dolour,	53s. 4d.
The fyftene sous peice,	15s. 6d.
The Frensche testan,	15s. 0d.
The Inglis testan,	10s. 0d.
The auld threttie s. peice,	53s. 4d.
The tua pairt theirof,	35s. 6d.
The third pairt theirof,	17s. 9d.
The new threttie s. peice,	40s. 0d.
The tuentie s. peice,	26s. 8d.
The auld ten s. peice,	13s. 4d.
The new ten s. peice,	10s. 8d.
The half mark peice,	7s. 0d.

26th Sept., 1598.

Gold.

The Spanis pistolatt,	3 lib.	4s.	8d.
The Frensche crowne,	3 lib.	6s.	8d.
The harie ducatt,	7 lib.	5s.	0d.
The gunhoill angell,	5 lib.	2s.	0d.
The angell nobill,	5 lib.	5s.	0d.
The doubill ducatt,	7 lib.	2s.	6d.
The gentis nobill,	7 lib.	17s.	4d.
The harie nobill,	7 lib.	3s.	4d.
The auld roiss nobill,	8 lib.	0s.	0d.
The Portugall ducatt,	37 lib.	3s.	6d.
The Scottis roiss nobill,	8 lib.	5s.	0d.
The hatt peice,	4 lib.	13s.	8d.
The lyoun peice,	5 lib.	4s.	4d.
The fyve pund peice,	5 lib.	6s.	8d.

2nd October, 1598.

The said day, it was exponit to the town, convenit be Alex^r^. Rutherfuird of Rubislaw, prouest, that the vnlawis of absentis fra heid courtis and gild courtis, and fra all vther assemblies of the haill town, ordanit to be convenit within the tolbuyth, as occasioun sall be offerit, be the handbell, with the vnlawis of sic as contravenis the statutis of this burght to be maid anent the selling of aill, breid, and flesche, hes bene sa small in tymes bygane, the samen being bot aucht s., that the same has bred contempt of the keping of the saidis ordinance, and repairing to the saidis courtis and vther publict assemblies, for the quhilk it was expedient that the saidis vnlawis suld be augmentit according to the late act of parliament, and that theirfor the prouest, baillies, and counsall, had statute and ordanit that the vnlaw of sic as sall happin to be absent fra the heid courtis and gild courtis in the yeir, and fra ony vther conventioun of the town quhairvnto the inhabitantis beis warnit be the handbell, and siclyk the first vnlaw that sall be takin of the contravenaris of the statutis to be maid on breid and aill sall be fourtie schillingis, to be vptakin heirefter of the absentis and contraveinaris, quhilk was deulie intimat to the town, convenit this day, that thay suld pretend na ignorance theirof, quhairvnto the town, convenit as said is, grantit and consentit but ony oppositioun.

2nd October, 1598.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall ordanit Alex^r. Kempt, dean of gild, to advance and deburse the soume of ten pundis Scottis money, theirof fyve pundis to Michaell Andersoun, poist, to pas to Dundie and Sanct Androus with letteris to Maister Robert Howye, Maister Andro Melvill, and Maister Johne Johnestoun; and als to pass to Edinburgh with informatioun to rais letteris vpon the lait act of parliament, aganis the slayeris of blakfische; and vther fyve pundis to be gevin for rasing of the saidis letteris, and signeting theirof, quhilk salbe allouit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

4th October, 1598.

Folowis the statutes maid and sett doun this day be the prouest, baillies, and counsall of the burgh of Abirden, to be kepit and observit be the inhabitantis theirof, subiect thervnto, efter the forme and tenour of the same, in all poyntis, quhill the feist of Michaelmes nixt to cum, vnder the panis thairin contenit.

In the first, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ratefeis, affermes, and approves the gude and godlie statute maid obefoir be thair predicessoris, anent the keping of the sermones on the Sabboth and vlk dayes, bering that all maisteris of houshauldis within this burght sall repair to thair paroche kirkis, keip and obserue the sermones on the Sabboth day, als weill efternone as afoirnone, and also the sermones on the vlk dayes, and not depairt theirfra vnto the end theirof, vnder the panis folowing, to be vpliftit of the contravenaris, sa oft as thay be noted and convict for thair absence fra the said sermones; that is to say, of euerie houshalder, burges of gild, or his wyff, remaning fra the sermones on the Sabboth day, threttene s. four d.; and of everie frie craftisman or his wyff remaning fra the sermones on the Sabboth day, sex s. viii. d.; and everie burges of gild for his remaning fra the sermones on the vlk dayes, sex s. viii. d.; and everie craftisman for his remaning fra the sermones on the vlk dayes, thrie s. four d.; and that everie husband and maister of houshald salbe answerabill for his wyff, incace of her absence fra the sermones, and pay the vnlaw incurrit be hir theirfor; and everie craftisman to be answerabill for his servandis and prenteissis, that thay sall keip the sermones on the Sabboth day, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of thrie s. four d., to be incurrit be the maister for his servand or prenteis, that beis absent on the Sabboth

day; and lykvayis, folowing the exampill of vther weill reformit congregations of this realme, statutis and ordanis that the wyffis of all burgessis of gild, and of the maist honest and substantious craftismen of this burght, sall sitt in the middest and bodie of the kirk in tyme of sermone, in all tyme cumming, and not in the syd ilis, nor behind pilleris, to the effect thay may the mair easilie sie and hear the delyverer and preicher of the word; and siclyk ordanis, that the wemen of the rankis forsaid, sall repair to the kirk, everie ane of thame having a clock, as the maist decent and cumlie vtter garment, and not with playdis as hes bene frequentlie vsit; and that everie ane of thame lykvayes sall hawe stuillis, sa monie as may commodiouslie hawe the same, according to the decent forme observit in all reformit burrowis, and congregations of this realme; and that the brether of gild salbe answerabill for thair servandis, anent the keping of the kirk on the Sabboth day. 4th October 1598.

Item, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall ratefeis and approves the statute maid obefoir, bering that na mercatt, nather of fische nor flesche, salbe on the Sabboth day in tyme cumming, in tyme of sermone, vnder the pane of confiscatioun of the same; and lykvayes ratefeis the statute maid aganis the playeris in the linkis, and at the kyillis, during the time of the sermones, with the gude and godlie ordinance maid obefoir, aganis sweraris and blasphemaris of Goddis holie name, ordaning thame to have full executioun in all poyntis aganis the contravenaris theirof, vnder the panis thairin contenit; and that na tavernar sell nor went any wyne nor aill in tyme cumming in tyme of sermone, ather on the Sabboth day or vlk dayes, under the pane of ane vnlaw of fourtie s., to be vpliftit of the contravenar als oft as thay be convict.

Item, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, deliberatlie considering quhow thair hes bene sindrie actis and constitutionis maid obefoir, be the magistrattis of this burght, aganis regrateris of victuall, and of the meill and malt mercattis, quhilkis not receaving thair awin dew executioun, nor the contravenaris theirof punischit, is the ground and occasioun of the present darth and exorbitant prices of victuall, croppin in within this burght, by all wther townis and burrowis of this realme; and that thair is sic a multitude of regrateris, and skafferis of the wymbes of the puir, rissin vp within this burght, quha hes thair onlie tred be passing to landvart

th October, 1598.

throchout the four halffis round about this burght, and bying the victuall fra the laboraris of the ground and husbondmen, befoir the cornis pas to kill, quhilk victuall gif it had not bene sua bocht afoirhand wald hawe presentit the townis mercat, and bene sauld theirin, and sua maid a flurisching mercat of victuall of ane competent and easie price, to the comfort of the puir, quilkis enormities langer can not be sustenit, without the eminent perrell and wrack of this commoun wealth, for remeid quhairof, and for repressing of the saidis regrateris, sa contagious enemies to this commoun weill, devoraris and suckeris of the blude and substance of the pure, and that ane flourisching mercat may be had of meill and malt within this burght in tyme cumming, as was obefoir, it is statute and ordanit that it sall not be lesum to na maner of persoun, nather burges of gild, craftisman, nor any vther inhabitant of this burght quhatsumeuer, to by ony mair victuall nor may sufficientlie furneis his awin hous, befoir the secund day of the moneth of Februar, and that na inhabitant, frie nor vnfrie, maltmen, baxteris, nor vtheris in any tyme cumming, by victuall in smallis throw the cuntrie fra the laboraris of the ground and husbandmen, and gadder the same in gryt, and keip the same to ane darth, mair nor may serve for the interteneing of his hous; and quhasoever salbe apprehendit or fund contravening thir presentis sall incur the vnlaw of ten pundis for the first fault efter convictioun, and tuentie pundis for the secund falt, and sua furth, *toties quoties*, as they happin to be convict, and vlklie inquisitioun to be takin be the dean of gild of the contravenaris of this statute.

Item, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering the gryt abvse croppin in the commoun meill mercatt of this burght, be reasoun of impvnitie of the transgressoris of the statute maid theiranent obefoir, and throw laik of diligent attendance to avayt on the same for reforming of abuses and disordouris theirin, tending not onlie to the gryt preiudice of this commoun wealth, and haulding vp and fostering of darth of victual, bot also to the hurt and skayth of thame quha bringis in meill to the samen, to be sauld: for remeid quherof, and reforming of the abuses and disordouris, it is statute and ordanit that thair sall be na mercatt maid on meill in tyme cuming, nor nane mett nor sauld, quhill the hour of tuelf in the day, and that nane within this burght presvme nor tak vpon hand to tak ony meill furth of the commoun hall, to be sauld in ony vther

pairt of the town, bot that the same be sauld and mett within the said commoun hall, and in na vther pairt, and that the custumar custume the same within the hall, and na vther place; and als, that na nichtbour within this burght, by ony malt or meill without the portis, cuming to the mercat to be sauld, bot that the samen present the commoun mercatt, and remane theirin quhill the ordinar hour forsaid, befoir or it be lesum to any inhabitant of this burght to by, or arll the same; and siclyk, that it sall not be lesum to any induellar in this burght, to by mair meill furth of the commoun meill mercat theirof, nor may sufficientlie interteine and sustene his hous and famelie, quhill the nixt mercat day theirefter folowing; and quhasoeuer contravenis this present ordinance in any poynt theirof, the contraveinar, efter convictioun, to incur the vnlaw of fourtie s., to be vptackin, *toties quoties*, as thay happin to be convict, but favour; and the bailleis to attend everie mercatt day on the meall mercatt, that na disordour nor abose be sufferit theirin, and to sie the statute aboue writtin preceislie kepit in all poyntis. 4th Oct., 1598.

Item, it is statute and ordanit that na staibler within this burght tak ony mair for stray, stabill fie, and candill, for a horse, ilk tuentie four houris, bot auchtene penneis; and for the peck of grytt aittis, fourtie penneis; smaller, threttie penneis; and the staibler contravening this statute to pay the vnlaw of fourtie s., *toties quoties*.

11*th October*, 1598.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall being crediblie informit that Alexander Lord Fyvie, Lord-President of Scotland, is to be in this burght the morne, and to mak himselff burges of this burght, theirfor thocht expedient that immediatlie efter he be maid a burges, the wyne and desert be presentit to him in cumlie forme on the townis expenssis, and quhat beis spent theiron, ordanis the thessaurer, or dean of gild, to satisfie the same, of the reddiest of the patrimonie and accidentis belanging to this burght, to be intromettit with be thame be vertew of thair offices, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair comptis.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall hes nominat and chosin Abraham Cuik to be berar of the hand bell of this burght, prouyding he serve according to the ordinance of consall maid thairanent

11th Oct., 1598.

obefoir, and tak na mair for his labouris nor is specifeit thairin, and attend on Patrik Pratt, takisman of the bell custumes.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, findis that Maister Thomas Mollisoun hes done wrang in causing rais the calsey, forganis the commoun clerkis chalmer of this burght, but licence, be reasoun quhairof the water is gorgit and standis on the middist of the calsey, theirfor ordanis the said Mr. Thomas to caus calsey on his awin chargis sufficientlie, according to the breid of the said chalmer, the calsey quhill it be anent the middist of the croce.

13*th October*, 1598.

Eodem die, nobilis dominus Alexander Settoun, dominus de Fyvie et Vrquhart, præses collegii justicie S.D.N. Regis, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde dicti burgi, de communi omnium comburgensium eiusdem consensu, absque contradictione, solut. preposito quinque solidis, in alba bursa, et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, venerabilis vir Vilhelmus Forbes de Tolquhone, senior, filius honorabilis quondam viri Vilhelmi Forbes de Tolquhone, burgensis de Abirdene, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde dicti burgi, jure paternitatis, solut. preposito quinque solidis in alba bursa, et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, venerabilis vir Alexander Burnett de Leyis, receptus et admissus fuit, in liberum burgensem et fratrem gildi burgi de Abirden solut. preposito quinque solidis in alba bursa, et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, venerabilis vir Magister Georgius Abercrummy de Overcarden, commissarius Aberdonensis, de nouo electus et admissus fuit, in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde dicti burgi, de communi omnium comburgensium eiusdem consensu et assensu, solut. preposito quinque solidis in alba bursa, et prestito per eundem juramento solito, et exemptus fuit a ly, scot, lott, walk, watche, and ward, et hoc gratis, gratia consilii et obtinuit dispensationem sue non residentie et inhabitationis in hoc

burgo, tempore futuro, ex eo, quod dictus Magister Georgius, exercere oportet suum officium commissariatus, in veteri Aberdonia. [At the sametime were admitted as burgesses, William Settoun of Mvnie, at the request of Lord Fyvie; John Settoun, servant of Lord Fyvie; Mr. Alexander Gibsoun, one of the Clerks of Council and Session; James Reid, minister at Banchory Trinitie; Alexander Settoun, brother-german of William Settoun of Blair; Mr. Thomas Burnet, son of the late [ ] Burnet of Slwie; and Patrick Clerk; the latter three at Lord Fyvie's request.] 13th Oct., 1598.

25th October, 1598.

The quhilk day it being considderit be the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, that the sowme of four pundis money, quhilk wes takin be the dean of gild of ilk burges of gyld, for thair gyld vyne, thir yeris bygane, wes owir lytile, considdering that of auld ilk persoun maid and creat burges of this burght, ves in vse to giff the vyne and spyseis to the prouest, baillies, counsell, and honest men of the toun, quhilk would amount to ane hyche sowme presentlie, gif the auld custom ver obseruit, thairfor thocht meitt, concluditt, devysed, and ordanit, that in all tyme cuming, thair salbe nane creat nor maid burges of gyld of this burght, bot sall pay to the dean of gild, of vyne, the sowme of ten merkis mone, by and attour his compositioun for his fredome, as salbe modefeit be the counsell, and dean of gyld.

The prouest, bailleis, and counsell ordanis in all tyme cuming, that Johne Thomesone and Margrat Forbes, his spows, Merzoun Cheyn, spows Johne Banis, sall only teycht be thame selfis maidyne bairnis, in all tyme cuming, and to haif na man doctour vnder thame, and the contravenar heirof to be depryvit and secludit fra all teching within this burght in tyme cuming.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that Meriorye Byris and Merzoun Wychtoun, alias Dowp, hes bene decernit of auld to have bene baneschit this burght, for certane odious crymes committit be thame, ar not vorthie to remane within ane civill burght, and being this day apprehendit trubling this burght, wer ordanit to be apprehended and brinit on the cheik at the markett croce, and to be baneschit this burght in all tyme heirefter.

27th Oct., 1598.

27*th October*, 1598.

The prouest and baillies statute and ordanit in all tyme heirefter, that giff ony quhyt fyscher in Futtie salbe fund to by ony muschellis, or a gryter quantete of muschellis nor may serue thame for beatt, cuming to this burght and merkat place theiroff, to be sauld owtwith the burgh in Futtie, or oney vther place, and not at the fysche croce and markett, ilk persone convict sall incur the vnlaw of xx. s., *toties quoties*, to the dean of gyld vnforgevin, quhilk statute wes maid in presens of the haill fyscheris in Futtie.

30*th October*, 1598.

The prouest and baillies decernit and ordanit William Logan, present ferriour of the ferry boitt of Torrye, and the ferriouris theirof after him, to mak at all tymes and seasones, convenient, guid and redye service to the inhabitantis of Futtie, men, wemen, and thair seruandis, as he salbe requerit, and to find ane sufficient boitt, with ane sufficient plank on the syd theirof to enter theirin, and theirfoir ilk howsholder in Futtie paying to the ferriour viii. s. at twa termes in the yeir, Vitsonday and Mertimes, but payment of any wther dewtie, to be payit be thame induring thair awin will, and vpon his guid and redye seruice to be maid to thame, and siclyk to pay the skait vsit and wont.

9*th November*, 1598.

The quhilk day, in presens of honorabill men, Alexander Rutherfurd of Rubislaw, prouest, Mr. Alex^r^. Cullen, Alexander Jaffray, and Patrik Forbes, baillies of the said burgh, taking ordour with the strublans of this burgh, this day committit be Patrik Chein of Essilmounth, and his seruandis, on the ane pairt, and Alexander and Nathaniel Keyth, sones to Willeam Keyth of Ludquharne, thair freindis and seruandis, on the wther pairt, chargeing baith the saidis pairteis in his Maiesties name, to find and sett souerteis and cautioneris that this burght and inhabitantis theirof (being his Maiesteis regale burght) sall be harmles and skaythles of thame, and sall nocht be trublit be thame, thair freindis and seruandis, quhome they may stop or lett, ilk ane of the saidis pairteis vnder the panes of [ ] money; for obediens to the quhilk charge and command gevin to thame, be the saidis prouest and baillies, the said Patrik Cheyn of Essilmounth fand Robert Forbes, elder, burges of the same burght,

souertie and cautioner for him, his seruandis, and freindis, that the toun sall be harmles and skaythles of him and thame, and all that he may stop or lett, and sall nocht be trublit be thame in any sort, vnder the said panis; and siclyk the said Alexander and Nathaniall Keythis sett and fand Johne Forbes, elder, burges of the same burgh, cautioner and souertie for thame to the effect forsaid, and thair freindis and seruandis, that the toun and inhabitantis theirof sall be harmles and skaythles, and sall nocht be trublit be thame, vnder the said pane; and the saidis Robert and Johne Forbessis, compeiring in presens of the saidis prouest and baillies, become actit souerteis for the saidis pairteis, vnder the pane aboue rehersit; and the said Patrik Chein of Essilmounth and the said Alexander Keyth actit and obleist thame to releiff and varrand thair saidis cautioneris of the premisses. 9th Nov. 1598.

10*th November*, 1598.

The quhilk day, the persones of the counsall following, viz.: Mr. Patrik Cheyn, Mr. Alex$^{r.}$ Cullen, Patrik Forbes, Alexander Jaffray, baillies; Alexander Cullen, Alexander Kempt, James Settoun, George Knowis, [ ] persaiving the apperance of trubill liklie to arryse and follow betuixt the Erll Merschell and his freindis, on the ane pairt, and [ ] Gordoun, apperand of Karnburrow, and sum of the name of Gordoun, his freindis, presentlie within this burght, on the vther pairt, be reasoun of new occasioun this day offerit betuixt [ ] Gordoun, brother to the said [ ] Gordoun, fear of Karnburrow, and [ ] Kaldwell, dependar and seruand of Robert Keyth of Benholm, and be reasoun of the occasioun that fell out yisternicht, betuixt the freindis of the said Erll Marschell, on the ane pairt, and Patrik Cheyn of Essilmounth, Patrik Crukschank, and George Cruikschank, his seruitouris, on the vther pairt, and that the saidis pairties wer convocatand their freindis on ather syd to cum to the calsey and trubill the town, and to invade vtheris: theirfor thocht meitt and expedient that the haill nychtbouris of this burgh, merchandis and craftismen, suld be convocatit and chargit to compeir in thair armis, and speciallie in lang vappynnis, to follow the prouest and baillies, and thair directioun for staying of trubill to be betuixt the saidis pairteis, and for eschewing of effusioun of bloode, and that thay suld follow thair magistrattis, and follow thair commandement that the toun may be harmles and vntrublit be the saidis

10th Nov. 1598.

pairteis ; ilk persoun within this burght being varnit and not compering in his armour as said is, to incurr the vnlaw of [ ] and that the toun be varnit to that effect be the officiaris in particular, bell or drum, as sall be thocht expedient in generall.

15th November, 1598.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, inrespect that Maister Willeam Skene, last maister of the sang schooll of this burght, is laitlie depairtit this lyff, and considdering gif the said schooll be dissolvit and skaillit, it will tend to the preiudice of the youth of this town, and vnderstanding Johne Leslye, in Kyntor, to be a qualefeit mvsician, albeit he can not instruct his scholeris in playing, theirfor to the effect that the schooll suld nocht dissolve, and quhill a qualefeit man be provydit to occupie the place, hes appoyntit and nominat the said Johne Leslye to teich the musick schooll of this burgh, quhill the feist of Candilmes nixt to cum allanerlie, and ordanit him to hawe the sowme of tuentie merkis for his panis during the said space, to be payit to him be the thesaurer of this burght, besyd the scholedge deutie to be takin be him of his scholeris, conforme to vse and wount, and the said Johne Leslye being present, acceptit the charge forsaid in and vpon him, vpon the conditionis aboue specifeit, and promittit faythfullie to leaue the said charge quhensoever the prouest, baillies, and consell thinkis expedient.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsale ordanit Alexander Kempt, deane of gild, to answer and pay to Walter Robertsoune, substitut clerk, the sowme of ten pundis monee for the expenssis and chargis debursit be the said Walter, at command of the prouest and baillies in Edinburgh, in this instant moneth, vpon the raising of letteris vpon the new act of parliament maid in the moneth of December last bypast, to charge the baronis, erlis, lordis, gentilmen, and frehaldaris hawand landis liand adiacent and contigue to the ryvaris and watteris of Dee and Done, and thair branschis, to find cautioun actit in the buickis of the secreit counsale, vnder the panes of soumes of monee, that thay, thair seruandis, tennentis, occupearis of thair saidis landis, nor na vtheris quhome they may stop or lat, sall slay or tak any salmound fishe in forbidden tyme, with any kynd of ingyne, sa far as thair landis extendis to, as the

saidis letteris this day producit be the said Walter in counsale, quhilk soume salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis. 15th Nov. 1598.

8th December, 1598.

The said day, the haill toun being convenit this day within the tolbuyth, warnit theironto be the hand bell, it was exponit to thame be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, that Maister Johne Skene, clerk of register, hes wretin to the prouest and baillies, certefeing thame that he wald folow owtt this burght with all regour, for not tacking of a numer of his actis of parliament, and theirfor the said prouest inquyrit of the toun, convenit as said is, quhat numer of bukes thay wald tak fra the said clerk register, for eschewing of the danger of horning, rasit at his instance aganis the towne, and the toun being convenit for the maist pairt, war content to tak fyftie of the saidis actis of parliament, and nominat Patrik Forbes, baillie; Alex^r^. Kempt, dean of gild; Dauid Cargill, Alex^r^. Burnett, and Andro Knowis to devyd the saidis fyftie bukis amangis the nichtbouris of this burght efter thair discretioun.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest and baillies ordanis Alexander Merschall, mylvart at the nather mylne of this burght, to mak a bak water claiss quhair the same was of auld, at the south nuik of Stevinsounes yard, and to hauld vp the dyckis of the watter gang sufficientlie for inhalding of the watter vnflowit over the sam.

13th December, 1598.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall ordanis Alexander Kempt, dean of gild, to satisfie the wyne and spycerie gevin and spendit to the Bischop of Aberdene, lait ambassadour for his maiestie at Denmark and Germanie, at his cuming to this burght, for his welcome hame, extending to the soume of [ ] quhilk salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

The samen day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, being crediblie informit that my Lord Duke of Lennox, and the Erll of Huntlie, ar to be in this toun this nicht, according to the custume observit within this burght heirtofoir in all ages, ordanis the said tua nobill men, in significatioun of

13th Dec., 1598. the townis guid will and favour, to be rememberit with the wyne and spycerie at thair heircumming, and to this effect ordanis Alex^r. Kempt, dean of gild, to caus present to the said tua nobill men, in name of the toun, ane dussoun buistis of scorchettis, confeittis, and confectionis, togidder with sex quartis of wyne, theirof thrie quartis of the best wyne, tovit, hullok and wyne tent, and thrie quartis of vther wyne, and quhatsoeuer the said dean of gild debursis theirin, salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Alex^r. Kempt, dean of gild, to deburse the soume of sex poundis, to help to repair the grammer schooll presentlie ruynous and decaying, quhilk soume sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

7th February, 1598.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, upoun the humble supplicatioun presentit to thame be George Strathauchyn, sumtyme baillie of this burght, mackand mentioun of the gryt loss and wrak sustenit be him, be the tacking and pilleing of his schip callit the [ ] be the Spanzeardis, and confiscatioun of the said schip and gudes thairin, quhairthrow he is impoverisched and strated with gryt necessitie, and now the said George being bound to Spayne to seik sum redres of the said schip and gudes, cravit the counsallis ayd and support to further him in his said weyage, as at gryt lenth was contenit in his said supplicatioun, quhairwitht the counsall being aduysit fand the desyre theirof werray reasonable, and thocht it thair deutie to remember the said George with sum cheritabill support, to further him in sa honest and commendabill a jurney, and thairfor ordanit Willeam Loremar, last thesaurer, to pay to the said George, the sowme of ane hundreth pundis usuall money of this realme, of the reddiest in his handis restand be him at the fute of his last thesaurer comptis.

14*th March*, 1598.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, deuysit and ordanit Alex^r. Kempt, dean of gild, with all convenient diligence to caus craftismen enter and paynt the chapell in the Castelhill of this burgh, quhilk is the townis commoun hous, and als to big ane littill stair of tymber on

the same, quhair the auld stair was obefoir, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said deane of gild theirvpon, the consall ordanis the same to be allowit to him in his comptis. 14th March, 1598.

The prayer to be said vpon the day of the electioun of the magistrattis of Abirdene befoir the electioun theirof.

Eternall and everhering God, quha hes created mankynd to societie, in the quhilk thou that is the God of order and haittis confusioun, hes appoynted sum to rewll and governe, and vtheris to be governed, and for this caus hes sett doun in thy word, the nottis and markis of sic as thou hes appoynted to beir governament, lykas of thy gryt mercie thou hes gathered us to be ane of the famous and honorabill burghtis in this kingdome, and hes reservit to ws this libertie, yeirlie to cheis our counsall and magistrattis, we besech the for thy Chrystis sake, seing we ar presentlie assembled for that purpois, be present in the middist of ws, furneis ws with spirituall wisdome, and direct our hartis in sic sort, that all coreupt affectionis being removed, we may cheice bayth to be counsall and magistrattis for the yeir to cum, of our brethrene fering God, men of knawledge, haitteris of avarice, and men of courage and actioun, that all our proceedingis heirin may tend to thy glorie, to the weill of the haill inhabitantis of this burght, and we may have a gude testimonie of conscience befoir the. Grant ws, deir Father, theas our requestis, for Chryst thy Sonnes saik, in quhais name we pray to the as he hes teichit ws.

Our Father quhilk art in heaven, &c. &c.

28*th March*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Alex^{r}· Kempt, dean of gild, to present to my Lord Erll of Huntlye, quha is to be in this town this nicht, for haulding of justice courtis on schuteris and havaris of pistollis, the wyne and spycerie: to vit, ane gallowne of wyne and a dussoun buistis of scorchettis, confeittis, and confectionis, according to the lovabill consuetude of this burght, quhilk sall be allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

6*th April*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanit Alexander Kempt, deane of gild, to caus present, in name of the towne, to the

6th April, 1599. Covntes of Merschaell, sex buistis scorchettis and cumfetis, with ane gallowne of wyne to thair velcum to this burght, it being the first tyme of hir entrie thairin, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

The said day, Johne Robertsoun, Johne Fortrie, Johne Schort, Johne Hucheoun, flescheris, war accusit be the prouest and baillies for the slaying of flesche this day, and haulding opin buith theirwith, expres aganis the actis of parliament, prohibiting that ony flesche suld be slayne or eatting fra the first day of Marche *inclusiue*, to the first day of May *exclusiue*; and the saidis persones being personallie present, grantit the said accusatioun, alledging thay had a warrand to do the same, be his Maiesties proclamatioun publischit thairanent in Edinburgh, and dyvers vther burrowis of this realme, quhairfor thay war convict and put in amerciament of court.

16*th April*, 1599.

The said day, the haill toun, bayth brether of gild and craftismen, being convenit for the maist pairt in thair heid court within the tolbuyth of the said burght, representand the haill bodie of the towne, it was intimat to thame be Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, that our sourane lord the Kingis Maiestie, be dyvers and sindrie his hienes actis of parliament, as alsua be act of his lait conventioun of estaites, hauldin at Halyruidhous in December last, hes appoyntit and ordanit the haill lieges of the realme, fensabill persones, als weill the inhabitantis of burrowis as thay quha duellis to landvart, to observe and keip publict wapinschawis and mustures, all the Monondays of May yeirlie, in tyme cumming, for sindrie gude respectis moving his hienes theirvnto, specifeit in the saidis actis: and als the said Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, commandit and chargit the haill inhabitantis of this burght, fensibell persones, to prepair themselffis for gevin of thair wapinschaw and mustures vpon all the Monondayes of May approaching, and to cum theirvnto sufficientlie furneist, and preparit with corslettis, pickis, speiris, jackis, hagbuttis, and vther wapynnis specifeit in his hienes proclamatioun maid thairanent: certifeing sic as sall be absent, and als thame that beis present nocht cumming sufficientlie armit, according to his hienes proclamatioun, that the panis theirin contenit sall be exactit of thame without favour. And lykvayes it was intimat to the town be the prouest, that the townis landimeris and the

vtter and inner bordouris and merchis of the fredome of this burght, was to be riddin and perambulat in the said moneth of May nixt, and theirfor commandit the nichtbouris to be in reddines in armes, for ryding of the saidis inner and vtter merchis, vpon xxiiii. houris aduerteisment to be maid to thame obefoir be the drum, vnder the panis contenit in the statutes of this burght maid thairanent, quhairvpon the said Alex^r. Rutherfurd cravit act and instrumentis. 16th April, 1599.

The samyn day, the haill toun, bayth brether of gild and craftismen, being convenit in thair heid court, for the maist pairt, representand the hail bodie, it was exponit and declarit to thame be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, that in the conventioun of estates hauldin at Halyruidhous, in the moneth of [ ] last bypast, it is speciallie concludit and sett doun be our souerane lord, with aduyse of his hienes estates and counsall, for sindrie gude considerationis moveing thame, that in all tyme theirafter thair suld be a pastyme day vlklie, to vit, every Mononday, quhairon it suld be lesum to all the laboraris of the ground within this realme to do thair awin lesum busines, and navayes to be answerabill to thair maisteris that day, for eschewing of the prophanatioun of the Sabboth day, quhilk hes bene prophanit be the laboraris of the ground of the meanest sort, be schearing of their cornis, and doing of their vther handis labour, be occasioun that na lassour was gevin to thame in all the vlk be thair maisteris for doing thairof, being than occupeit in thair masteris service. And als to the effect that the youth, and the servandis, and prenteissis to merchandis and craftismen within burght, micht hawe tyme to exercise thame selffis in all sortis of pastymes, and speciallie in handling of thair armour, quhilk hes altogidder bene neglectit in tymes bygane, to the gryt preiudice of the commounwealth of this cuntrie, and that his maiesties estates and counsall had dischargit the lordis of sessioun, schireffis, prouestis, and baillies of burrowis, and all vther judges within this realme, fra sitting or haulding courtis on Mononday, at ony tyme thairefter for the caussis forsaidis, declaring quhatsumeuer suld proceid or be done be any judge on Mononday, suld be null and of nane availl, as at gryt lenth is contenit in the act of the said conventioun maid theiranent; and becaus the prouest and baillies of this burght hes bene in vse in all tymes bygane, to sitt and hauld courtis on Mononday and Friday vlklie, as thair ordinar court dayes, and that all judges within this realme ar dis-

16th April, 1599.

chargit fra sitting or haulding courtis on a Mononday in tyme cuming, conforme to the said act of conventioun, quhilk is alreddie embracit be the lordis of sessioun and vtheris judges besouth this burght, theirfor the said Alex. Rutherfurd, prouest, declarit to the toun, convenit as said is, that he, with the bailleis and counsall, had resoluit and thocht expedient to embrace the said act, and to discharge the haulding of ony burrow court in tyme cumming within this burght on Mononday, bot that the samen sall sitt and be haldin in all tyme heirefter on Tuysday and Fryday vlklie, and intimat the counsallis ordinance theiranent to the towne, quhilk thay ratefeit and approvit in all poyntis, and promittit to folow and embrace the sam in tyme cuming, quhairon the said Alex^{r}· Rutherfurd, prouest, tuke instrumentis.

18*th April*, 1599.

The samen day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis the sowme of ten merkis debursit be Alex^{r}· Kempt, dean of gild, on the desioyne gevin to Mr. Charlis Ferme, and sic of the counsall as war with him vpon the tent of this instant, to be allowit to the said Alexander in his comptis, togidder with the sowme of fyve pundis tuelf shillingis debursit siclyk be the said dean of gild on the [ ] of this instant, for the wyne and spycerie presentit in name of the toun at command of the prouest and baillies, to my Lord Erll Merschall and to his Countes, be reasoun it was hir first cumming to this burght, and that according to the lovabill consuetude observit within the same in all tymes bygane.

28*th April*, 1599.

The quhilk day, in presens of Alex^{r}· Rutherfurd, prouest, and Mr. Alex^{r}· Cullen, baillies, comperit Alex^{r}· Ewyne, merchand burges of the said burght, and at thair command delyverit to Mr. Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of the said burght, the prothocall buikis, bund and lowse, of vmquhile Mr. Johne Kennedye, notar publict, and commoun clerk of the same burght, contenit and specifeit in ane wreit of the dait, at Aberdene the nyntene day of September, the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} fourscore fourtene yeiris, subscryuit be Mr. Johne Chein, prouest of the said burght, the said yeir, and be the said Alex^{r}· Ewyn and Mr. Alex^{r}· Fraser in sic estate, forme, and conditioun, as is specifeit in the said wreit, contening the delyuerance theirof to the said Alex^{r}· Ewyne;

quhilkis buikes, bund and lowse, war visitit be the said Alex^{r}. Rutherfurd, prouest, Mr. Alex^{r}. Cullen, baillie, and be the said Mr. Johne Cheyne this day, and war fundin in the same estate and conditioun, and na war nor they war at the macking of the said wreit, and the said Alexanderis resett theirof, and gevin to the said Mr. Thomas in keping, till the consal tak forder order thairwith. 28th April, 1599.

30*th April*, 1599.

The quhilk day, George Trowp, merchand, wes convict and put in amerciament of court for trubling of the toun, and drawin of ane dager and wynding of Archibald Burnet, flescher, in the heid thairwith; to forbeir, &c.; and siclyk, Alexander Tullidaff, merchand, wes convict and put in amerciament, for the thrawing of ane flescher aix out Androw Blakheris hand, and thairwith hurting the said Androw in the [ ] hand and drawing of his blood; to forbear; William Lousoun, merchand, becam cautioun for thair vnlawis, as the counsell suld modifie, and that the said George nor Alexander suld not truble the toun heirefter, and they actit thame to releif thair cautioner.

9*th May*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Alex^{r}. Kempt, dean of gild, to gif to Alex^{r}. Warrak, warkman, fourtie s. money, to be gevin be him to the barbour, to help to cuir the hand quhilk was hurt the last Mononday in the publict vapinschaw, and ordanis the said soume to be allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun gevin in to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, be Maister Thomas Leslye, burges of the said burght, craving of the counsall that thay wald caus repair the ruynous and decayit calsey at the town end, quhilk passis towards the cruvis, seing dyvers of the cuntriemen and of the inhabitantis of this burght ar grytumlie intrest in the wynter day, throw the insufficiencie and hoillis in the said calsey; quhilk wark of the repairing and bigging of the said calsey, the said Mr. Thomas was content to vndertak vpon him, and to perfytt the same in all convenient diligence, he being satisfeit be the counsall according to thair wyse considerationis for the samen, as at mair lenth was contenit in the said supplicatioun: quhilk being red in

9th May, 1599. counsall, and theirwith thay being advysit, findis the desyre thairof verie reasonable, and theirfor ordanis the sowme of ane hundreth merkis to be payit to the said Mr. Thomas be the thesaurer or dean of gild, of the reddiest of the patrimonie or accidentis belanging to the toun, being in thair handis at the completing and finisching of the wark, the samen being biggit be the advyse of Dauid Andersoun, maister of the kirkwark, quhom the counsall hes appoyntit to be oversear of the said wark, and ordanis the said soume to be allowit to the said thesaurer or dean of gild in thair comptis.

The said day, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall, comperit Maister Alexander Fraser, burges of the said burght, and submittit and referrit to the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall, quhat satisfactioun and gratitude salbe gevin to him be the toun for his richt and titile of the prothogale buikis of vmquhill Maister Johne Kennedy, notar, sumtyme commoun clerk of the said burght, promitting and oblesing him faythfullie to accept quhatsumeuer gratitude the counsall suld think expedient to be gevin to him for the richt of the saidis prothogall buikis, and for any proffitt or commoditie he may crawe for the extracting and transsuming of any instrumentis furth of the same in any tyme cumming, and never to claime nor pretend any richt to the saidis buikis heirefter, bot that the samen remane in the custodie and keping of the commoun clerk of the burght in all tyme cumming, to the effect thay may be extant to all pairties having to do theirwith; and the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that the said Mr. Alexander hes denudit himself of the saidis prothogall buikis, and that the samen ar alreddie put in the custodie and keping of Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of this burght, and vnderstanding that the said Mr. Alex^{r}. had a richt of the samen buikis, maid to him be the said vmquhile Maister Johne in his letter will, theirfor thocht it agreabill to equitie and reasoun, that the said Mr. Alexander hawe sum gratitude for his richt of the saidis buikis, and of any commoditie or proffitt he may clame for the extracting or transsuming of any instrument furth theirof in tyme cumming; and advysing quhat gratitude and satisfaction sall be gevin to him for the same, and considdering therwith that dyvers of the inhabitantis and nichtbouris of this burght may be grytumlie preiudgit in cace the saidis buikis war abstractit and not put in publict custodie, to be extant to all havand entres as said is,

concludit and resoluit to gif to the said Maister Alexander the sowme of fourscoir pundis money, for his full richt and titill quhilk he hes or may clame, or pretend to the saidis prothocall buikis, or to ony proffitt or commoditie he may hawe or crawe, for the extracting or transsuming of any instrument furtth of the saidis buikis in tyme cumming, to be payit to him as followis, viz.: becaus the said Maister Alexander is restand auchtand to the town the sum of fourtie pundis for the fewmaill of the landis of Frosterhill, of the Martemes terme, fourscoir sevintene, Witsonday and Martemes termes, fourscoir auchtene, and Witsonday terme approaching, fourscoir nyntene, theirfor dischargis the said Maister Alexander of the said fourtie pundis for the said four termes fewmaill of the saidis landis, simpliciter and for euer, and ordanis thir presentis to be a sufficient acquittance to him thairanent, and the soume of vther fourtie pundis in compleit payment of the said fourscoir pundis, to be payit to the said Mr. Alexander be Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, of the reddiest of the townis rent in his handis, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis; and the said Mr. Alex^r. being personallie present, acceptit and was content with the counsallis ordinance aboue specifeit, and for the said sowm of four scoir pundis, voluntarlie renuncit and dischargit all richt, clame, and entres quhilkis he hed, hes, or may have, to the saidis prothogale buikis or any of thame, ather be vertew of the legacie or assignatioun of the said vmquhill Mr. Johne Kennedy, or be ony vther richt quhatsumeuer in favouris of the said toune of Aberdene, and thair successoris, with all commoditie or proffitt he may ask or crave for the extracting or transsuming of ony instrument furth of the same, and consentit that the saidis buikis remane in all tyme cumming with the said toune of Abirdene, and thair successoris, to be kepit be thame, or vtherwayes put in sic custodie and keping as sall be thocht expedient be the counsale for the tyme. 9th May, 1599.

The said day, William Skene was convict be the depositionis of dyvers famous witnessis, sworne and examinat, for cumming this day to Maister Robert Chalmeris pleuch, being gangand in the territorie of Futtie and fredome of the said burght, and thair aganis all law and equitie, be forme of bangstrie, cutting with his knyff the theattis of the said pleucht, and stricking the said Mr. Robert in the breist with his neff, and minassing of him and his servandis, and staying of his pleucht to gang; to forbear.

9th May, 1599. Thomas Cumming, catioun for the said William, that the toun sall nocht be trublit be him, and Wm. Gray, cautioun for the said Mr. Robert, for the sam effect, ilk ane vnder the pane of jc. lib.

15th May, 1599.

The said day, Mariorie Hacquett was convict and put in amerciament of court for the sklandering of Elspett Dalgarnocht, in calling hir baneist harlott, and that sho had sustenit Johne Lawson, his wyff and houshald, on hir maisteris geir sen Martemes last, and siclyk the said Mariorie was convict for sklandering and iniuring of the said Johne Lason, in calling him theiff and resseit, and that his hous was sustenit be the stowin geir ressett be him fra the said Elspet Dulgarnocht, to forbear in tyme cumming, and to mend as law will; and siclyk the said Elspet Dulgarnocht and Johne Lason wer convict for calling of the said Maige Hacquett baneist harlott, and the said Mariorie Hacquett was instantlie ordanit to be had to the joggis.

May, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, considdering that William Skene was convict, vpon the nynt of this instant, for cumming to Maister Robert Chalmeris pleucht, being gangand in the territorie of Futtie, and ther cutting with a knyff of the theattis of the said Mr. Robertis pleucht, and minassing of him and his seruandis, and staying of his pleucht to gang, as the act of his conviction beris, theirfor adiudgit the said Willeame in ane vnlaw of ten pundis, to be payit be him to the dean of gild vnforgevin, but preiudice of the amendis to be maid be him to the partie, quhenas the same beis requyrit; and siclyk the counsall considdering that the said Willeame hes bene convict sen Michaelmes last for the dinging of ane officier, executour of the commissaris letteris, and that this present convictioun is sic ane rair offence, as the lyk hes not bene sene in this burght heirtofoir, theirfor decernis and declaris that gif the said Willeam beis convict in tyme cumming for the lyk offences, that he sall be deposit of his fredome of this burght, never to be receavit agane thairefter.

The quhilk day, anent the complaynt gevin in be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, vpon the nynt of this instant, and continewit to this day, in

name of the nichtbouris, burgessis, and craftismen of this burght, aganis Willeam Buchan, merchand of the samen, berand that the inhabitantis of this burght, burgessis of gild and craftismen, being convenit at command of his Maiesties actis and proclamatioun, and be command of the magistrattis of this burght, in armes on Mononday the sevint of this instant, for geving of thair vapinschaw and musture, and being rankit and put in ordour, passand fra the croce of the samyn burght, folowand thair magistrattis and leaderis to the linkis, agetvardis to the Justice Port, Patrik Annand, sone to the Laird of Ochterellon, with certane vtheris persones, being on horsbak, and having contemptuouslie red throw the rankis, and brak thame, with qwhome the said Willeam Buchan, being ane merchand of gild of this burght, was on horsbak lykvayes, with the said Patrik and vtheris his complices, and sua socht lordschip contrar this burght, violat the ayth gevin be him the tyme of his admitting in ane burges of gild, in that the towne being in armes and passing to thair mustures, did nocht joyne himself as ane of thair nvmer with thame, nather enterit in ordour nor rank with the nichtbouris of the same, bot red in rout with the Lairdis of Auchmakoy and Auchterellon, and tuke plane pairt with the said Patrik Annand and his complices in drawing of a dager to dyvers nichtbouris of this burght, desyrand theirfor the prouest, baillies, and counsall, to tak sic ordour thairanent, as the said William may be condignelie pvneist for the said offence, committit in maner befoir specifeit, to terrifie vtheris to commit the lyke in ony tyme heirefter, as in the said complaynt at mair lenth was contenit; the said William being personallie warnit, in presence of the counsall, vpon the said nynt day of Maii instant, to answer to the said complaynt, and to heir and sie tryell and ordour taken thairanent, being callit and nocht comperand, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, with the counsall of the yeir preceding, being for the maist pairt convenit in the counsalhous, having red and considderit agane the said complaynt, quhilk was vpon the said nynt day red to the said Willeame, and be reasoun of his non-comperance and contumacie, efter detfull tryell and inquisitioun had vpon the heidis of the said complaynt, findis that the said Willeam hes done wrang in not joning himself to the nichtbouris of this burght, vpon the said sevint day of Maij, and in accumpanyeing the said Laird of Auchmakoy on horsbak the same day, and misbehaving himself to the magistrattis and nichtbouris of this burght, quhairanent

16th May, 1599.

16th May, 1599. they convictit the said William, and decernit him in amerciament, and continewit the setting doun of his punischement and amendis for the said offence, to this day aucht dayes.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Mr. Thomas Mollison, commoun clerk, to delyuer to Patrik Forbes, baillie, the townis chartour, maid be vmquhill King James the Fourt, of the dait, at Edinburgh the xvii. day of August, j^{m} v^{c} ellevin yeris, berand that na woll, skin, hyd, nor victuall, sall be transportit furth of the shire of Aberdene vncustumat, be quhatsumeuer persones, to be vsit be the said Patrik in the suspensioun, rasit aganis him be the barronis of Buchan, quhilk chartour the said Patrik instantlie receavit fra the said Mr. Thomas, and obleist him to delyuer the same agane to him, betuixt and the first day of August nixt to cum. Patrik Forbes, bailzei.

23*rd May*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall ordanis Alex^{r}. Kempt, dean of gild, to answer and pay to Thomas Ballantyne ane roise nobill, for his panis takin on the [ ] day of this instant, in instructing of certane young men and nichtbouris of the town to handill thair hagbuttis and pickis, in the Linkis of this burght, and alse to gif to my Lord Orknayes trumpetour, quha was present the said day, ane croun of the sone, quhilk salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

15*th June*, 1599.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and consale, with aduyse of the ministrie and sessioun, hes thocht gud that thair be ane fast and humiliatioun of the inhabitantis of this burght, on Sonday nixt, the xvii. of this instant, and that the saidis inhabitantis repair to the kirkis of this burght, to the hering of the word of God sincerlie prechit and red, keip the kirkis fra murning to the efternoon sermonis be endit, and for entreating God of his merceis for seasonable wedder and dropping schouris of rayne, to the comfort of the fructis and cornis presentlie growand on the ground, widderit at the gud plesour of God be ane gryt droucht and blastering wyndis, for the sinnis and offences of the people, provoking Goddis wratht, and that the drum sall pas throcht the stretis of the burght, and mak intimatioun heirof to the haill inhabitantis, certifeing sic as salbe found out of

kirkis the said day, or contrauening this ordinance, efter tryall, the persoun convict therof to incur the vnlaw of five poundis on forgevin. 15th June, 1599.

20*th June*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis the soume of tuentie poundis to be gevin to Dauid Andersoun, plumber, commoun servand to the towne, for his panis, labouris, and expenssis takin in macking of ane orlage in the commoun clerkis chalmar, quhilk is the townis commoun hous, to be payit to the said Dauid be the thesaurer or dean of gild, betuixt and Michaelmes nixt to cum.

22*nd June*, 1599.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and gryt pairt of the counsall of the said burght, past to the commoun passages and gettis passand to and fra the said burght, and visiett the samen, and speciallie the gett passand fra the Justice Port to the Linkis of the said burght, and fand that the said gett, quhilk suld be fyftene futtis of breid in all partis, was nidderit on bayth the syddis therof, be William Skene and his tenentis of the Sow croft adiacent thairto, on the south pairt, and be Johne Kennedy, constabill of Abirdene, and his tenentis, occupearis of the croft adiacent thairto, on the north pairt, be earing of the same, and sawing of cornis thervpon, and that theirby they had committit purpresture in niddering of the kingis commoun gett, and sawing of cornis theirvpon, as said is; and theirefter, passing to the wynd callit Garvockis Wynd, at the north end of the toun of Futtie, be the quhilk wynd and gett the artailzerie and munitioun of the said burght of auld, in tyme of wear, for defence of this burght, wer wount to be careit to the blokhous, fand that the said wynd was of auld, and aucht to be, tuelff futtis of breid in all partis, and the eist end therof tuelff space, and that Gilbert Blak and Androw Ewyn, possessouris and occupearis of the aikeris lyand on bayth the syddis of the said wynd, had laborit and takin in a pairt therof to thair saidis ackeris, and sua had nidderit the said wynd, and that thairby thay had committit purpresture as said is; quhilkis persones the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis to desist and ceis fra all occupeing or laboring of any pairt of the saidis gettis, and letteris to be impetrat aganis thame theranent, be delyuerance of the lordis of sessioun, quhairvpon Alex^r^. Kempt, dean of gild, tuke instrumentis.

12th July, 1599.

12*th July*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, to deburse and pay to Mr. George Greir, minister, the soume of fourtie poundis money, for macking of his expenssis in cumming to this towne from Edinburgh, at the desire of the counsall, to the effect the inhabitantis of this burght micht hear his doctrine, and for macking of his expenssis bak agane to Edinburgh, quhilk salbe allowit to the said thessaurer in his comptis; and lykvayes ordanis Mr. Peter Blakburne, minister, to be rememberit for the interteneing of the said Mr. George this ten or xii. dayes past in the said Mr. Peteris hous.

13*th July*, 1599.

The said day, the haill toun being lauchfullie warnit to this day, be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodye, it was exponit to thame be Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, that at the desire of the counsall, and be consent of his maiestie, and aduyse of the commissionaris of the generall kirk, Maister George Greir is cum to this burght, and is hard be preching and teching in the pulpit to the congregatioun, for a tryall of his qualeficatioun, to have occupeit the emptie roume of the ministrie of this burght, be the transportatioun of Mr. Robert Howye to Dundie, and seing that they had heard him teiche, desyrit of the towne, convenit as said is, to voit and gif thair advyse gif the counsall sall deale with the said Mr. George to accept the said office vpon his gud will, favour, and lyking of this congregatioun, quhilk thay all in ane voce, but any oppositioun, grantit that the counsall suld deall with him for his transportatioun to this burght, and provisioun of his moyen and stipend incace of his acceptatioun, and as the counsall did and agreit with him thairanent, they obleist thame to vnderly and fulfill the same, and to pay sic stipend to him as the consall suld appoynt incace of thair agriement with him, and in sic forme and maner as suld be sett doun and devysit be thame.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, with consent of the commvnitie presentlie convenit, statute and ordanit that all inhabitantis of this burght that hes ony landis, tenementis, or yardis, lyand adiacent

to the commoun mylne burne, discending from the loch to the ouer and nather mylnis, sall hauld that pairt of the said burne adiacent to thair saidis tenementis, clene of ony red fuilzie or filth, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fourtie s., to be incurrit of ilk persoun failzeand. 13th Jul 1599.

18*th July*, 1599.

The said day, Maister Alex^r. Cullen, baillie, commissionar laitlie chosin for this burght, for keping of the generall conventioun of burrowis, hauldin at Linlithgow in the moneth of Julij instant, intimat to the baillies and counsall presentlie convenit, ane missiue letter direct be his Maiestie to the commissionaris of the burrowis assemblit at the said conventioun, quharof the tenour folowis: Trustie freyndis, we greit yow hartlie weill: Considdering the greivous complayntis of sindrie our subjectis of the merchand estate sustening gryt loss within thir lait yeris, in thair persones and gudes, be the piracie of Ingland, quhilkis pairtlie in default of myne, and pairtlie throch vnskilfulnes of the pairties interestit, hes lyin ouer vnsuted for, or reddressit, to the impoverisching and gryt preiudice of our cuntrie; as lykvayes, considdering that sindrie debaittis and actionis commounlie falling out betuixt merchand and merchand, our subiectis traficquing in Ingland requeris ane instant decisioun, and a judge to be appoyntit for that effect, as we hawe in the low cuntries and Spayne, we hawe thocht expedient theirfor that ane of our awin sall be depute to mak residence at London, as conservatour of our previlegis and agent, als weill to mein the redres of the loss of our subiactis of the merchand estate, as to judge of the particular questionis and debaittis hapning amangis thame, and sua vpon ane speciall regarde and assurance we hawe of the loyaltie and experience of our weill belovit William Huntar, ane of your awin calling, and nichtbouris quhome we send for anis erand for this same purpois, we hawe maid choise of him to be preferrit and imployit in that our service, willing and desiring yow to wey and considder quhow necessar it is that he be placed for effectuating of that our service, speciallie redounding to your particular weillis and commoditie, and according to your discretioun to modifie quhairvpon he sall be intertenit, ather speciallie be traficquaris within that realme, or generallie be the haill burrowis, quhairvnto nocht douting of your conformitie, sen this is a mater quhairin ye hawe grytest entres, and a thing quhilk we hawe resolued to hawe done, and resting to your answer quhat

18th July, 1599.

may be likit thairanent, we commit yow to God. From Falkland, this last of Junij, 1599. *Sic subscribitur*, James, R. And siclyk the said Mr. Alex^r^. Cullen, baillie, commissionar forsaid, intimat to the counsall that the commissionaris of burrowis, in thair said conventioun generall, had appoyntit a particular conventioun of the commissionaris of the cheif burrowis of this realme, quhairof this burght was appoyntit to be ane, to convene at Edinburgh vpon the third day of August nixt, for geving answer to his Maiesties letter aboue specifeit, and for resoluing quhat ordour sall be takin thairanent: and theirfor desyrit the counsall to direct thair commissionar to the said particular conventioun, protesting, in respect of this lauchfull intimatioun aboue mentioned, that gif the said mater be neglectit, the wyit thairof may be impute to the counsall, and the said Mr. Alex^r^. hauldin to hawe done his exact diligence in the intimatioun thairof, and thervpon cravit act and instrument.

23*rd July*, 1599.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall being convenit, with ane gryt numer of the auld counsall of the yeir preceding, advysing vpon his Maiestie's desire gevin in and producit in wreit be Richard Prestoun, capitane of his maiestie's hous, to the commissionaris of burrowis convocat in thair generall conventioun, hauldin at Linlithgow in the moneth of July instant, craving thair conformitie and answer anent the establesching of ane conservatour of the Scottis previlegis at Londoun, for the caussis specifeit in the letter direct thairanent, to vit, of William Huntar; efter lang deliberatioun, thocht it nocht proffitabill for the comoun weill of burrowis that ony conservatour of the Scottis natioun be estableschit at Londoun for dyveris reasones: first, becaus that the Scottis merchandis that treddis towardis Londoun careis na Scottis waris from Scotland therunto, but onlie gold and syluer: nixt, the establesching of ane conservatour their will import ane gryt preiudice to the merchandis of this realme that treddis in the north pairtis of Ingland, and vther pairtis of the said realme, quha wald be compellit to change thair trade and pas to Londdoun: thirdlie, in cace ony conservatour war estableschit their for the Scottis natioun, he wald hawe no powar be the lawis of the realme of Ingland to decyd on piracie, in cace ony war committit be Inglismen aganis this cuntrie, quhilk decisioun wald belang to the Admirall of Ingland; and for vtheris reasonable and weychtie caussis, and that to the

granting of the desire of his Maiesties letter, this toune suld oppone thameselffis; and to that effect it was thoct expedient be the counsall that ane commissionar suld be electit and chosin for this burght, for convening at Edinburgh vpon the third day of August nixt, with the commissionaris of the remanent burrowis ordanit to assemble thair the said day, for geving answer to his Maiesties letter; and to this effect nominat, electit, and wotit, Alexander Jaffray, baillie, commissionar for this burght, for keping of the said conventioun at Edinburgh the said third day of August nixt, and that ane hundreth merkis suld be gevin to him for macking of his expenssis, to be payit be the brethrene of gild, merchand traficqueris, as havand onlie entres in that mater. Persones of counsall present, Alex$^{r.}$ Rutherfurd, prouest; Mr. Patrik Cheyne; Mr. Alex$^{r.}$ Cullen; Alex$^{r.}$ Jaffray; Patrik Forbes, baillies; Alexander Cullen; Dauid Fergussoun; Alex$^{r.}$ Burnett; Gilbert Chalmer. 23rd July 1599.

The said day, the haill merchandis brether of gild of this burght, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day be the handbell, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, Alex$^{r.}$ Rutherfurd, prouest, causit reid in all thair audience the act maid in the lait conventioun of burrowis, hauldin at Linlithgow in the moneth of Junij instant, contening his maiestie's letter sent to the commissionaris of burrowis assemblit at the said conventioun, and producit be Richard Prestoun, capitane of his maiestie's hous, desyring the saidis burrowis conformitie and resolute answer anent the establesching of W$^{m.}$ Huntar to be conservatour for this natioun at Londoun, and that the third day of August nixt was appoyntit for convening of the commissionaris of the cheiff burrowis of this realme at Edinburgh, for geving ane answer to his maiestie's desyre in the said mater, quhairanent the counsall of this burght advysing, thocht it not proffitabill that any conservatour for the Scottis natioun suld be estableschit at Londoun, for dyveris gude caussis and reasones quhilk the said prouest schew and declarit to thame, and that theirfor they had thocht meit that a commissioner suld be send to keip the said third day of August for opponing to the desire of the said letter anent the establesching of ane conservatour at Londoun, and that thay had nominat Alex$^{r.}$ Jaffray, baillie, commissionar for this burght to that effect, quhome they ordanit to hawe the soume of ane hundreth merkis for macking of his expenssis, and becaus the mater tuichit the merchand estate, the saidis expenssis behovit to be payit be

23rd July, 1599.

thame, and nocht out the commoun purse, and desyrit thairfor the merchandis, convenit as said is, to cheis taxtaris to stent the same vpon the merchandis brether of gild, protesting gif thay chesit nocht taxtaris, to stent the said soume on the saidis merchandis, and that the said commissionar war stayit for lake of expenssis, and thair estate preiudgit thairby, that the fault suld be put to thame selffis, and that the counsall be frie theroff, and repute to hawe done thair diligence, and thay being oftymes requirit to cheis taxtaris to the effect forsaid, refusit to do the same, quhairvpon the said Alex^r^. Rutherfurd tuke instrumentis.

25th July, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanit Alex^r^. Kempt, dean of gild, to deburse the soume of ten merkis, to be send to Edinburgh for purchesing of a continewatioun of the wapinschaw, appoyntit to be of this haill shirefdome, vpon the sext of August nixt, till the first of November nixt to cum, and that be reasoun of the gryt loss to be sustenit be the inhabitantis of this burght in thair cornis, incase of the haulding of the said wapingschaw the sext of August, and alse to deburse four pundis to a poist to pas to Edinburgh, for hamebringing of the saidis letteris, with twentie s. to ane vther poyst to pas with the toonis missive to the Marquis of Huntlie, quhilk salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

6th August, 1599.

The quhilk day, in presence of Patrik Forbes, baillie, comperit Johne Leslye, younger of Newleslye, oy and air to vmquhile ane reuerand father in God, Johne Leslye, sumtyme Bischop of Ross, and maid and constitute, and be thir presentis mackis and constitutis, Maister Gawin Leslye, Channoun of the Cathedrall Kirk of Rowen in France, his lauchtfull procuratour for him, and in his name to vptak, lift, and receawe, the dettis of the said vmquhile reuerand father, contenit in his letter will and testament, and lykvayes to vptak, lift, and receawe, in Italie, Spayne, France, Flanderis, or elsquhair, the dettis siclyk awand the said reuerand father in name of pensioun, or vthervayes, acquittances and discharges to gif theirvpoun, compone, transact, and agrie theirfor, and all vther thingis to do, &c., and to vplift and receawe fra Sir Philip Dayala, counsalour to the King of Spane, the original testament of the said Bischop,

subscribit and stampit be him, or fra quhatsumeuer persoun havar of the samen, with power to substitute procurators vnder him, ane or ma, permittet to hauld ferme and stabill, and desyrit this present procuratorie to be extendit in Latine, vnder the town's privie seall, in deu forme; quhilk desire the baillie forsaid thocht reasonable, and therfor ordanit the said procuratorie to be extendit in dew and ampell forme, and to be sealled with the said seall, quhairvpon the said Johne Leslie tuke act and instrument. Jhone Leslie, Patrik Forbes, bailzie. 6th August. 1599.

5th September, 1599.

The said day, the prouest exponit to the towne, convenit as said is, that Sir Thomas Gordoun of Clunye, knicht, had agane renewit his sute anent the avaytaking of all differences betuix this toune and the auld towne, and that he had desyrit certane, authorizeit with commissioun from this burght, to meit him vpon the ground aboue the Hiltowne, vpon the sext of this instant, to reasoun and confer in the said mater, quharintill thair could be nathing done by thair advyse, it being a mater tuiching the haill bodye of the towne, and thairfoir inquyrit of thame quhat thay vald do anent the said Sir Thomas desyre, quha grantit and consentit that thair sould be a fre commoning betuix the towne, and the said Sir Thomas in name of the auld towne; and to that effect nominat the said Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prouest, Thomas Meingzes of Durne, Maister Johnne Cheyne of Petfechie, Alex^r. Chalmer, Johnn Collysoun, Maister Patrik Cheyne, Dauid Meingzes, elder, Maister Thomas Meingzes, and Alex^r. Jaffray, or ony fyve or sex of thame, to be intercommoneris for this burght, to commoun with the said Laird of Clunye, at the said place, or quhair it sall be thocht expedient, the said sext day, or ony vther day to be appoyntit, to heir and see the said Laird of Clunyes offeris and desyre, and to report agane to the counsalle and towne, and the saidis commoneris to have na power to conclude, quhill his offeris and desyre be first reportit, and a sufficient power gevin baith be the counsal and towne to thame to conclude in the said mater.

Eodem die.

The said day, Alexander Rutherfurd, provest, exponit to the towne, convenit this day within the townehous, being warnit be the hand bell, quhairvpoun the berare maid fathe, that acording to the ordinance maid

5th Sept., 1599.

be the haill commounaltie vpoun the threitene day of July last bypast, anent the dealing with Maister George Grier, to vndertak the charge of the ministrie of this burght, in the empte rowme of Maister Robert Howye, and anent his provisioun of stipend, in cace of his acceptatioun of the said charge, the consalle, to quhom power was gewin for his transportatioun, and setting doune of the provisioun for his moyen, haid earnestlie travellit with the said Maister George, and haid maid him ane overture of his provisioun, and quhat stipend thay wald gif him yeirlie, quha than tuik the first of this instant to be resoluit, and to gif his resolit ansuer thairanent at the said day, and that baith befoir his departing out of this towne, efter he was earnestle delt with to accept the function, and be his letter wrettin to the counsall and sessioun sensyne, thair was, nor is nocht, sic willingnes fand in him to vndertak the charge and embrace the moyen offerit, nather yit is he sa loving towards his accepting of the charge as the counsall wauld wische him: and thairfoir desyrit of the towne, convenit, gif thay thocht it meitt and expedient that they sould insist any forder with the said Maister George for his acceptatioun or nocht, or gif thay wald cast thair eyes and try out ane vther meitt persoun, within the boundis of the diocie of Abirdene, or elsquhair, in zeall, learning, and lyfe, to vndertak the said charge, quho being solempntlie convenit as said is, thocht it navayes necessar nor meitt that ony forder trawelling sould be maid with the said Maister George, for his acceptatioun of the said office, voting all in ane voce that ane vther meitt persoun within the boundis of the diocie of Abirdene or elsquhair, sould be socht out, meitt in all the qualities foirsaidis, to supple the empte rowme in the ministrie, and thairfoir dischargit and lowsit the power and commissioun gewin be tham obefoir to the counsalle, be vertew of the said act, of the dait foirsaid, anent the dealing for the said Mr. George transportation, and provisioun of his moyen, and gaif power and commissioun be this present to Dauid, Bischope of Aberdeine, Alexander Rutherfurd, prowest, Maister Peter Blakburne, minister, Thomas Mengzes of Durne, Alexander Cullen, Alex^{r}. Chalmer, Mr. Dauid Rait, principall of the Colledge of Auld Aberdene, Maister Gilbert Gray, principall of the Colledge of this burght, Maister Patrik Cheyne, Maister Alexander Cullen, Patrik Forbes, Alexander Jaffray, present baillies; Dauid Fergussoun, Alex^{r}. Burnett, Johnne Vrrie, Gilbert Chalmer, Alex^{r} Kempt, Johne King, Maister Patrik Skeyne, Thomas Gray, Williame Gray,

Maister Richard Irving, Dauid Mengzes, elder, Maister Thomas Mengzes, James Settoun, Maister Dauid Rutherfuird, Maister Thomas Mollysoun, Dauid Cargill, Maister Thomas Cargill, Maister Robert Mar, George Knowis, and Dauid Andersoun, George Elphestoun, and Dauid Watsoun, or the maist pairt of thame, to nominat and cheis ane qualifiet persoun, indewit with qualities meit for the said office, to accept the functioun of ane of the ministeris of this burght, gif he may be haid within the diocie of Abirdeine, or vther quhair, as to sic persones quha hes best knawledge, and can decerne better in the said matter nor a commounaltie, and to sett downe quhat sall be gewin him in stipend yeirlie, quhow and in quhat maner the same sall be payit, and as the saidis persones, or the maist pairt of thame, dois in the said matter, thay oblegit and promittit fathfulle to stand and abyide theirat, provyding that befoir the admissioun of the said persoun to the said functioun, he be hard teiche and weill lyckit of be thame. 5th Sept., 1599.

11*th September*, 1599.

The quhilk day, it was exponit to the toun, and haill inhabitantis theiroff, burgesses of gild and craftismen, convenit in the tolbuyth, efter publict warning maid to thame be the hand bell passand throw the haill rowes of the burght, and thay being fullie gadderit, representand the haill bodie of the towne, be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, that Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene; the said Alexander Rutherfurd; Maister Peter Blakburne, minister; Alexander Cullen, lait prouest; Maister Patrik Cheyne; Maister Alexander Cullen; Alexander Jaffray; Patrik Forbes, bailleis; Dauid Mengzeis, elder; Maister Gilbert Gray; Maister Richard Irvyng; Maister Thomas Mengzeis; Willeam Gray; Dauid Andersoun; Maister Robert Mar; Dauid Cargill; Maister Thomas Mollisoun; Alex$^{r.}$ Kempt; Johne Kyng; Thomas Gray; Maister Patrik Skene; George Elphingstoun; and Dauid Watsoun, commissionaris, nominat be the toun, vpon the fyft day of this instant moneth of September, to cheis ane meitt and qualefeit persoun to supplie the emptie rowne of Maister Robert Howye, in the ministrie of this burght, and to sett doun quhat salbe gevin him in stipend yeirlie, quhow and quhat maner the same salbe payit, being convenit in the sessioun hous of this burght, this day, efter the hering of the doctrine of Maister James Ross, minister at Strathauchyn, maid on Sonday last and this day, to bayth the congregationis of this burght, on the tua pairtis

11th Sept., 1599.

of the halie scriptures, gevin to him for a theme and text to teiche, or for his tryell in doctrine and literature, had, efter censuring of him in knawledge, doctrine, and lyff, with ane vniforme consent, fund the said Maister James to hawe sound knawledge in the holie scriptures, and habill to vndertak the said charge, to distribute faythfullie the word of God, and minister the sacramentis, and theirfor ane meitt quha may weill and proffitablie serve in that rowme and office, and had mad chois of him; and seing thay had hard the said Maister James teiche, desyrit of the toun, convenit as said is, to declair gif thay had a lyking of his doctrine, and affectioun towardis him, as ane meitt to occupie the said halie functioun, on quhome thay wald bestow ane reassonable moyen, according to thair habilitie, for his wardlie sustentatioun, quha all in ane voce, but oppositioun or contradictioun, in presence of the said Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene, and of the said Mr. Peter Blakburne, ministers, declarit that thay hade a lyking to the said Maister James, and that his doctrine was sound and hailsum doctrine, and ane of guid lyff and conversatioun, indeuit with gude qualities, inhabling him to discharge him of that functioun, with quhome thay war weill appleasit and content, and na vtheris to be socht for occupeing of the said rowme, and thairfor to his nominatioun, electioun, and admission gawe thair consent and assent; lykas the said Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene, personallie present for himself, and as ane havand powar of his maiestie to the chesing and electing of ane ordinar minister and pastor for preching of the evangell, and ministratioun of the sacramentis within this burght, in place of the said Maister Robert Howye, for his hienes, and in name of his majestie, votit and declarit, in audience of the towne, that he gawe his consent to the electing of the said Mr. James in ane of the ordinar pastoris of this burght, as ane meitt and qualefeit to discharge the said godlie office, als weill in doctrine as in lyff and conversatioun, quhilk nominatioun and electioun of the said Maister James to the said functioun, be the said commissionaris for the towne, and als be the said Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene, havand power of his majestie, as said is, and be the haill inhabitantis, convenit as said is, but contradictioun, being maid in maner befoir specifiet, the said Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene, and commissionaris aboue rehersit, according to the powar grantit to thame obefoir, vpon the said fyft day of September, ordanit and appoyntit, with consent of the haill towne, convenit as said is, the soume of fyve hundreth merkis vsuall money of this realme, to be payit to the said Maister James yeirlie for his

stipend sa lang as he remanis minister of this burght, at tua vsuall terms in the year, Witsonday, and Martemes in wynter, be equall portions, be the thesaurer of this burght, quhilk yeirlie stipend of fyve hundreth merkis money aboue expremit, the prouest, bailleis, counsall, and haill commonaltie all in ane voce ordanit to be payit to the said Mr. James at the saids tua termes, be the thesaurer of this burght, receavet and collectit of the propertie, yeirlie rent, and patrimonie thereof, of the reddiest and first of the fewmaillis of the land and watter tackis of the samen, and yeirlie propertie and rent of the said burght, to be receavit and intromettit with be the said thesaurer, be vertew of his office, anent the payment of the quhilk yeirlie stipend of five hundreth merkis, to be payit be the said thesaurer to the said Mr. James, furth of the reddiest of the patrimonie and yeirlie rent of the said burght, thir presentis salbe a sufficient warrand to the said thesaurer, ordaining the said Mr. James to be inrollit in the thesaurers comptis amangne the townis pensionaris; and the said Maister James Ross being personallie present, hering his nominatioun and election be publict consent, and vniforme approbatioun of the commissionaris and town to the said charge, and the lyking and affectioun of the inhabitantis of this burght towards him, did publictlie say and afferme befoir God and thame, that he was bound to support this burght that did so eirnistlie call for his confort and fruitis of his labouris, and theirfor willinglie acceptit the said charge on him, acknawledging him bound to obey God calling him be thame, and promeist according to the graces and vtterance that God sall grant vnto him, to distribute the misteries and trew word of God faythfullie to thame, and to discharge his office deulie according to his habilitie, and in signe and takin of his acceptatioun of the said charge, and office of the holie ministrie of this burght, and that he was content with the moyen and stipend forsaid, the said Mr. James jonit hand in the hand of the said Dauid, Bishop of Abirdene, and of the said Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prowest, in presence of the towne, thay on the vther pairt promesing faythfullie to assist the said Maister James in every thing pertening to his charge, with obedience as becumeth the flock to their pastour, so lang as he remanit faythfull in that office; the first termes payment of the said yeirlie pensioun of fyve hundreth merkis to be and begin at the feist of Witsonday nixt to cum, quhilk office the said Maister James acceptit vpon him as said is, and promeist faythfullie to repair and resort to this burght, with wyff, barnis, and famelie, at the feist of Martemes nixt to cum.

11th Sept., 1599.

12th Sept., 1599.

12th September, 1599.

The said day, the counsall ordanis Dauid Andersoun, maister of the kirkwark, to repair the kirkhous presentlie occupeit be James Tod, redar, in thak, ruiff, and cuppellis, and to mak the same waterthicht with the first and reddiest of the accidentis belanging to the kirk presentlie in his handis, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis, and the said wark to be done befor Michaelmes nixt, be reasoun the seasoun of the yeir is hasting avay.

18th September, 1599.

The quilk day, Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, Johnne Collysoun, Dauid Mengzeis, elder, Maister Thomas Mengzeis, and Alex^r^. Jaffray, compering judiciallie in presens of the haill towne, convenit this day within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodie, being warnit therto be the hand bell, declarit that they ar fyve of the aucht persones nominat be thame to be intercommowneris for this burght, to commoun with the richt honourable Sir Thomas Gordoun of Cluny, knicht, and with sic as suld be appoyntit for the auld toun, anent their desire vpon the pretendit commountie quhilk the inhabitantis of the said Auldtoun alledge they suld hawe within the forest of the Stockett, and to heir thair offer and desire thairanent, reporting agane the said desire and offer to the counsall and towne, as the act maid theranent, vpon the fyft of this instant September proportis, convenit yisterday the sevintene of this instant, in the College Kirk of the said Auldtoun, with the said Sir Thomas Gordoun, and vtheris intercommouneris of the said Auldtoun, and desyrit thame to produce sic titillis, richtis, and infeftmentis as they wald vse, and quhairbe thay wald clame ony commountie within the fredome of this burght, or on the Stockett, to the Auldtoun and inhabitantis theiroff; lykas, the commowneris for this burght did exhibite and produce before the intercommownaris of the said Auldtoun, sufficient titile and infeftment, ancient and autentik, gevin be his Maiestie's maist nobill progenitouris of a lang tyme sensyne, to the burgessis and communitie of the burght present and to cum, vpon the forrest of the Stockett, and that be the commownaris of the said Auldtowne thair was na evident nor richt producit, bearing the said Auldtowne or inhabitantis therof to have ony richt or titile of commountie within the fredome of this burght, of the forrest and Stockett, saving onlie ane ratificatioun gevin be King James the Ferd, of gude memorie, to vmquhill Bischop Willeam Elphingstoun,

Bischop of Aberdene for the tyme, of all liberties, previlegis, and immunities, gevin or grantit be his Maiestie's predicessouris at ony tyme obefoir to the bishoppis of Aberdene, and that they being desyrit be the said Sir Thomas Gordoun, and intercommownaris for the said Auldtoune, to mak offeris to thame, refuisit sua to do, inrespect thay had na commissioun of the toune to that effect, bot onlie to heir the offeris to be maid be the said laird of Cluny and inhabitantis of the Auldtoun, and to report agane the same to the counsall and towne, as said is, as thair limitat powar and commissioun gevin to thame vpon the said fyft day of September proportis, craving of the said Sir Thomas and intercommownaris for the said Auldtoun, that this day thay suld giff in thair article in wreitt, quhat thay wald crave to be grantit to the inhabitantis of the said Auldtoune, of libertie vpon the commountie and fredome of this burght, and to ground and instruct the same with sic richt and titile as suld be sufficient for verefeing theirof; and the said Alex^r^ Rutherfurd, prouest, for himselff, and in name of the remanent commownaris of this burght, convenit yisterday as said is in the said Auldtoun kirk, vpon this thair report of that quhilk was commownit betuixt thame and the said Sir Thomas and intercommownaris of the said Auldtoune, in the mater forsaid, conceedeit to thame as said is, and that thay had, in the said commowning, contenit thame within the boundis of thair commissioun, and had nocht transgressit the same, tuke act and instrument. And in the meintyme comperit in presence of the towne, convenit as said is, Johne Gordoun of Bogis, Mr. Alex^r^ Irvyng and Mr. Willeam Barclay, aduocattis, citineris in Auld Aberdeen, and gawe in and presentit ane article in wreit for the Bischop of Abirdene, the said laird of Cluny, and the citineris of the Auldtowne, cravand that thay micht be sufferit to enioy commountie, with sic libertie as thair predicessouris had (as thay alledgit) thir mony yeris bypast, within all the boundis of the forrest of Stockett, and thairwith producit ane register of the Bischoprick of Abirdene, contening ane chartour alledgit gevin be Malcome, King of Scotland, to Mathow, Bischop of Aberdene for the tyme, of the baronie of Murthill, with commoun pasturage within the forrest of Abirdene, datit at Banff, the fyftene day of November, and the ellevint yeir of the said kingis reigne, and theirvpon desyrit the prouest, baillies, consall, and communitie answer in wreit, quhilk being opinlie red in audience of the haill towne, the prouest, baillies, new and auld counsallis, with ane gryt number of the wysest of the brether of gild

18th Sept., 1599.

18th Sept., 1599.

and dekynnis of the craftis, advysing vpon the said article and desire therof in the counsalhous, efter lang deliberatioun for pace and quyetnes caus to be interteneit in all tyme cumming betuixt the tua townis, war content to agrie with the said Bischop of Abirden, Channonnrie thairof, College, and inhabitantis of the Auldtowne, vpon thir conditionis, that thay suld acknawlege the toune of Aberdenis heretabile richt of the propertie of the forrest of Stockett, and renunce all pretendit richt and possessioun that thay micht pretend therto, or privilege within the same or ony pairt therof, quhairvnto the chartour producit be thame out of the said register mackis thame no richt, nather yit gevis the said bischop, college, or inhabitantis of the Auldtowne ony privilege or libertie within the said forrest, quhilk being done, of gudewill, favour, and tollerance, thay wald ease the Bischop, College, and inhabitantis of the Auldtowne and Channounrie theiroff, allanerlie with preuilege of pasturage, fewall, faill and dovett, to thair awin vse, within the said Auldtowne, Channonrie, and Unniversitie therof, within sic partis of the said forrest as suld be designit to thame be this burghtis commissionaris, to be chosin to that effect, quhilk sall remane in all tyme cumming commountie to bayth the townis, vnappropriat be ather of thame, to be vsit onlie to the effect forsaid.

19*th September*, 1599.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun presentit to the counsall be George Ricard, berand that he being absent furth of this realme in his lefull wayge, his wyff, but ony command of him, thinking to hawe gottin no impediment, causit big and erect ane chop vnder the stair of his land lyand on the north syd of the Castellgett of this burght, quhilk be ane ordinance of the counsall was inhibit to be biggit, craving of the counsall thair ouersicht or licence, as thay thocht best, to ease him and his said land with ane litill easment of ane chop, and for the said ouersicht, gif it suld pleas thame to grant the samen, he wald be content to repair ane pairt of the commoun calsey of this burght, direct forganis his stair, on his awin chargis and expenssis, as in the said supplicatioun at mair lenth sall be contenit: quhilk supplicatioun and desire theirof being considderit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall efter specifeit, thay ar to say, Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prouest, &c., and considdering thairwith that the supplicantis land and stair therof is situat quhair the streitt and commoun

gett is maist spatious and wyd, and that the bigging of ane chop vnder the said stair can navayes be preiudiciall to the commoun streitt, and that the calsey forganis the same is brockin and sunkin, quhair at all tymes of rain and weitt ther remanis ane gryt puill of watter, vndecent to be sene, being in the entrie of the maist principall streitt of this burght, vpon thir considerationis grantit ane ouersicht to the said George to big ane chop of tymmer vnder the said stair within the gutter, for the quhilk they ordanit the said George, according to his awin supplicatioun, to big, mend, and repair the calsey direct forganis the said George foirland, towardis the south, sa far furth thairfra to the rigging stane of the calsey that passis fra the croce towardis Johne Kemptis land, and the said calsey, to be biggit be him, to be of the lenth of the said George awin land, and to be biggit on his awin chargis and expenssis, and vpon this conditioun the counsall forsaid grantit licence to big the said chop, with the quhilk conditioun the said George acceptit the same. 19th Sept. 1599.

20*th September*, 1599.

The quhilk day, in presence of the richt honorable Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, comperit Robert Gray, burges of Aberdene, and becom actit as cautionar and souertie for Johne Gordoun of Tullielt, that the said Johne sall employ and bestow the soume of fourtie pundis money on the yle of the kirk of Tarves for reparatioun and building therof, betuixt the dait of thir presentis and the tuentie day of September nixt to cum, in the yeir of God ane thousand and sex hundreth yeris, and siclyk that the said Johne sall mak his publict repentance in the kirkis of Tarves and Methlik, betuixt and the day forsaid, and the said Johne Gordoun actit him to releiwe the said Robert Gray of the premisses.

24*th September*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, vpon the humble supplicationis of the persones efter specifeit, mening their present indigent estate cleirlie knawin to the counsall, and for gratefeing of vtheris the townis commoun seruandis quha ar daylie burdenit in the commoun service and effaris of the towne, in rememberance of thair panis and service, ordanis Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, to deburse the sowmes efter specifeit, ilkane thair awin pairtis as is vnderwritten, viz. : to Issobell Andersoun, wedow, and relict of vmquhill Johne Spadine, mariner,

24th Sept., 1599.

for support of hir and hir pure fatherles bairnis, the soume of four pundis; to James Moyses for his support, four pundis; to Gilbert Bairnis, sacristar of the paroche kirk of this burght, aucht pundis; to Huchoun Ross, fyve merkis; to Andro Inglis, commoun swescheman, to by him a juip of reid flanning, sex pundis threttene s. four penneis; to Oliuer Young bower, now becum agit and decrepitt, sex pundis threttene s. four d.; to William Logan, ferriar, for his support, fyue merkis; to Alex^r. Maresoun, for bying to him of a coitt, being visiet be the hand of God with furiositie, fyue merkis; to Willeame Schankis in Futtie, quha is hariet and wrackit be the birning of his hous, four pundis; to James Tod, redar, for his present support, sex pundis threttene s. four d., with provisioun that in tyme cumming he be not farder burdenabill to the towne, bot for his ordinar stipend allanerlie; to William Robertsoun, merchand, quha is becum agit and decrepitt, four pundis; to Andro Moyses, fourtie s.; to Margrat Lyoun spous to Johne Gordoun, the sowme of twentie pundis money; and that vpon the instant sute of my lord Erll of Huntlye, requesting in her favouris for satisfactioun of certane frenshe blak poyndit from her for certane hir offences and enormiteis committit in the yeir of God fourscoir tuelff, quhilk tuentie pundis the counsall ordanis to be payit to the said Margrat, in respect of the requestis maid in hir favouris, and in consideratioun of hir indigence, and for no vther respect, finding the forsaid frenshe blak lauchfullie poyndit and comprysit, for payment of the vnlawis quhairin sho was iustlie adiudgit in the yeir of God forsaid; and lykvayes, consideratioun being had be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, of the painfull travellis and gude service done be Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of this burght, sen the feist of Michaelmes last bypast, in the commoun turnis and effaris of this burght, theirfoir in rememberance of his saidis panis, ordanis the said Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, to pay to the said Maister Thomas the sowme of fourtie merkis, and als to pay Walter Robertsoun, substitute-clerk, in rememberance of his labouris and panis takin in the townis effaris induring the said space of ane yeir bygane, the sowme of ten pundis, with ten merkis to Dauid Mar, wretar in the clerkis chalmer, for his service and labouris takin in the commoun turnis of the town the said yeir; and siclyk ordanis the soume of four pundis to be payit be the said thesaurer to Marioun Rutherfurd, for a gallown of wyne auchtand to hir, spent at the townis turnis, quhilkis haill sowme particularlie aboue

written, extending to the sowme of ane hundreth tuentie-aucht pundis four d., the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis to be allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis. 24th Sept., 1599.

6th October, 1599.

The said day, Johne Huchoun, flescher, being accusit in judgment as ane persoun onvorthie to duell in the societie of this burght, inrespect of the crymes folowing, quhairof he was culpabill, as was allegit, first, that he was ane filthie levar, and had lyin by his lauchfull marreit wyff, Mariorie Wod, with ane heland woman; secundlie, that he had not communicat at the Lordis tabill thir sevin yeris bypast; thirdlie, that he had vnmercifull dung and demanit the said Mariorie Wod, his spous, scho being gryt with chyld, at the doun lying, casting ane chandler at hir, and therwith hitting hir on the bak, be the quhilk straik he causit his said wyff pairt with bairne befoir the ordinar tyme of hir delyuerie, and dinging hir maist crewallie with a battoun on the bak, syddis, armis, and dyuers pairtis of hir bodye, to the effusioun of hir blude; fourtlie, for a commoun nicht walker, drunkart, playing at cartis and dyce, and a waistour; quhilk being denyit be the said Johne, was referrit to the tryell of the assise chosin, sworne, and admittit in judgement, quhilkis persones being out of court removit, efter lang deliberatioun entering agane in court, fand and delyuerit all in voce be the mouth of the said Johne Layng, chancellar, that the first tua poyntis quhairof he was accusit, to vit, for alledgit adulterie, and nocht communicating at the Lordis tabill, was meir spirituall and ecclesiastic, quhilk thay referrit to be discussit, and ordour to be takin theranent, be the kirk, and clengit and absoluit the said Johne Huchoun fra the remanent poyntis of his accusatioun, inrespect that the said Mariorie Wod, his spous, comperit and past fra ony accusing of him for stricking of hir, and that the remanent poyntis war navayes verefeit to thame.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest and baillies, inrespect that Johne Huchoun, flescher, was accusit vpon dyvers poyntis meriting baneisment as ane vnlauchfull nichtbour, sic as nichtwalking, playing at cartis and dyce, and not commvnicating at the Lordis tabill, statute and ordanit, in presence of the said Johne, consentand to this ordinance, that gif he beis convict

6th October, 1599.

in ony tyme heirefter, efter he be lauchfullie callit in ony of the saidis poyntis, or vther crymes meriting baneisment, that he salbe baneist and exylit this burgh and fredome for the space of ane yeir thairefter, and farder during the will of the counsall.

17th January, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Alex^r^· Kempt, dean of gild, to deburse the sowme of ellevin merkis for this desioyne gevin to the bischop and ministrie at the resolutioun tacking anent the provisioun of ane minister to this burght in place of Maister Robert Howye, and siclyk ordanis the said Alex^r^· to gif the sowme of sevin pundis, for support of sex cost syd men that wer pilleit be the hieland men, in thair cumming fra the Lewis, quhilkis soumes sall be allowit to the dean of gild in his comptis.

Eodem die.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, ordanit Dauid Fergussoun, thesaurer, to pay the sowme of fyue merkis money, to Patrik Walter for the vptacking of the psalme in the new kirk this yeir bygane, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis.

19th January, 1599.

The said day, in presence of Alex^r^· Rutherfurd, prouest, comperit Thomas Lorne in the Overtoun of Dyce, forsamekill as the said Thomas hes bene accusit of hering of spreittis, and wavering oftentymes fra his wyff, bairnis, and famelie, be the space of sevin vlkis, nocht knawin to thame nor to any vther persoun quhair he hes bene during the said space, thairfor the said Thomas faythfullie band and oblegit himselff, that in cace in ony tyme heirefter he be fund passing avay from his wyff, bairnis, and famelie, in sic sort, by hir knawledge, and except he mak hir or vtheris his freyndis forsene of his avay passing, and of the erand, to quhat place and to quhome, that in that cace he sall be content, but ony forder tryall, to suffer the death as ane giltie persoun, dealer with spreittis.

7th February, 1599.

The said day, it was statute and ordanit be the prouest, baillies, and

counsall, that giff ony tavernar within this burght, seller of wyne, aill, or beir, beis convict in ony tyme cumming for having of iniust messouris and stoupis, nocht being of the just juge, quhairwith thay sell ather wyne, aill, or beir, that the saidis tavernaris being lauchfullie and ordourlie convict, sall be dischargit of all selling and wenting of aill, wyne, and beir thairefter, and thair saidis injust messouris sall be brockin, and thir presentis to be publeschit at the mercat croce. 7th February 1599.

21*st February*, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis Alex^r^. Kempt, dean of gild, to deburse and pay to Johne Andersoun, paynter, the soume of ane hundreth and tuelff merkis, for the said Johnes expenssis, and cullouris imployit and bestowit be him on the paynting of the commoun clerkis chalmer of this burght, quhilk soume salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis, togidder with the soume of thrie pundis, debursit be him for towis to the tolbuyth knok.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall nominat and chesit Alexander Jaffray, baillie, and George Knowis, bayth presentlie in Edinburgh, commissionaris for this burght, coniunctlie and seuerallie, for keping of the conventioun of estaittis, to be hauldin at Edinburgh the last of this instant, for treating and advysing vpon ane ambassadour to be direct towardis France, for renewing of the ancient bandis of amitie betuixt the twa crounis, and redintigratioun of the auld previleges, quhilkis his maiestie's predicessouris and subjectis of this realme, hes bruikit within the said realme of France heirtofoir, according to his maiestie's missive, direct to the prouest, baillies, and counsall thairanent, of the dait at Halyruidhous the third of Februar instant, and ordanis ane commissioun to be maid to thame heirvpoun, vnder the townis privie seall, in forme as efferis; and incace the saidis Alexander or George, or ather of thame, remane for keping of the said conventioun, thair expenssis to be considderit and modefeit be the consall at thair returne, for the space that thay happin to remane at Edinburgh for keping of the said conventioun.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall thocht meit and expedient that the commissioun purcheist to the prouest of this burght, and schirreff of this schirefdome, for haulding of justice courtis on witches

21st February, 1599. and sorceraris, salbe prosequut vpon all persones duelland within this burght and fredome theirof allanerlie, delatit of the said cryme, and that this burght and fredome thairof suld be purgitt of sic contagious enemies to the commoun weill of the same.

23rd March, 1599.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall devysit and ordanit Alex^r^. Kempt, deane of gild, to deburse the soume of fyftene pundis money, to the effect efter following, viz., the sum of ten pundis to be send to Mr. Johne Paip, wretar to the signet, for rasing of ane exemptioun to the provest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of this burght, for exeming thame fra the justice courtis to be haulden be the Erll of Huntylie, schireff of Abirdene, aganis the beraris and schuteris with pistollis, and vtheris ingynes of fyrewark; and als for rasing of letteris of suspensioun, to suspend the chargis of horning executt aganis the prouest and baillies, for tacking of Willeam Leslie, sumtyme in Fintray, and Johne Abernethie, in Caskiben; and the soume of fyve pundis to be gevin to Adame Young, poist, for making of his expenssis to Edinburgh, in bringing hame of the saidis letteris, the quhilk soume salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

2nd January, 1600.

The quhilk day, Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of this burght, exhibit in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ane act of his Maiesties secreit counsall, ordaining that in all tyme cuming the first day of the yeir of God sall begin yeirlie vpon the first day of the moneth of Januar, and the said ordinance to tak executioun vpon the first day of Januar instant, quhilk first day of Januar instant his Maiestie and secreit counsall declairit to be the first day of the j^m^ and sex hundreth yeir of God, as the said act of secreit counsall proportis; quhilk act the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis to be insert and registrat in the burrow court buikis of this burghe, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour followis: At Halyruidhouse the sevintene day of December, the yeir of God j^m^ v^c^ fourscoir nyntene yeris, the kingis Maiestie and lordis of secreit counsall, vnderstanding that in all vtheris weill governit commoun wealthis and cuntries, the first day of the yeir of God begynnis yeirlie vpon the first day of Januar, commonlie callit New

Yeiris day, and that this realme onlie is different fra all vtheris, in the compt and reckning of the yeir, and his Maiestie and counsall, willing that thair sall be na disconformitie betuixt his Maiestie his realme, and lieges, and vtheris nichtbour cuntries in this particular; bot that thay sall conforme thameselffis to the ordour and custume obseruit be all vther cuntries, especiallie seing the course and seasoun of the yeir is maist proper and answerabill thairto: thairfor his Maiestie with awise of the lordis of his secreit counsall, statutis and ordanis, that in all tyme cumming the first day of the yeir of God sall begin yeirlie vpon the first day of Januar, and thir presentis to tak executioun vpon the first day of Januar nixt to cum, quhilk sall be the first day of the j^{m} and sex hundreth yeir, and thairfor ordanis and commandis the clerkis of his hienes sessioun and signett, the directour and wrettaris to the chancellarie and privie seall, and all vtheris wreittaris, notares, and clerkis within this realme, that thay and everie ane of thame in all tyme heirefter daitt all thair decreittis, infeftmentis, chartouris, saisingis, letteris, and wreittis quhatsumeuer, according to thir present act and ordinance, compting the first day of the yeir fra the first day of Januar yeirlie, and the first day of the j^{m} and sex hundreth yeir of God, fra the first day of Januar nixt to cum, and ordanis publicatioun to be maid heirof at the mercat croces of the heid burrowis of this realme, quhairthrow nane pretend ignorance of the samen. 2nd January 1600.

13*th February*, 1600.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Dauid Andersoun, maister of kirkwark, to pay to Gilbert Bairnis, sacristar, the sowme of ten pundis money, for candill fund be the said Gilbert fra all Hallowmes last, to Candilmes immediatlie bygane, for serving the cheiff and principall daskis of baytht the kirkis of this burght, quhairin the magistrattis and counsall usis to sitt, and ordanis the same to be allowit to the said maister of kirkwark in his comptis: togidder with the sowme of tuelff pundis altogidder, payit be the said Dauid Andersoun to the said Gilbert, for furnessing of candillis to the haill herssis in the kirk, and als to the pulpitt induring the said space; and siclyk ordanis that in all tyme cumming the maister of kirk for the tyme, sall caus furneiss the haill commoun lichtis and candillis of the kirk, to vit, the herssis, pulpitt, and redaris lattroun, togidder with the principall and cheif daskis of bayth the kirkis quhair the magistrattis and counsall ussis to sitt.

15th April, 1600.

15th April, 1600.

The quhilk day, the haill inhabitantis of this burght being convenit, &c., it was exponit to thame be Alex. Cullen, prouest, and be Maister Peter Blakburne, ane of thair ordinar ministeris, that not onlie in the reformit congregatiounis of the principall burrowis of this realme, bot dyveris and syndrie congregationis to landvart, the inhabitantis of the saidis burrowis, and parochineris of the saidis congregationis, hes bene catechisit and instructit in the principall groundis of religioun, and heids of catechisme, and custumablie to thair pastouris, as thay ar requyrit, gevis ane compt and tryell of thair profitting in the samen, quhilk as yit hes nocht bene universallie embracit and folowit in dyveris burrowis and sindrie congregationis to landvart, and thairfor that it was thocht gude and expedient be the generall assemblie of the haill kirk of this realme, that the inhabitantis of the haill burrowis and parochineris of the congregationis to landvart, suld anis ulklie, or as suld be appoyntit be the magistrattis of burrowis, ministeris, and pastouris, the houshalderis, men, wyffis, barnes, and servandis, cum to discretioun of yeris, be catechisit and instructit in the groundis of religioun, and heidis of the catechisme, and gif to thair pastouris and ministeris ane accompt and tryell thairoff, for the quhilk caus the ministeris, elderis, and deaconis of this burght, convenit in thair sessioun upoun the threttene of this instant, thocht it werray proffitable, that on thursday, ilk ulk, the maisteris of houshaldis, thair wyffis, bairnis, and servandis, and utheris inhabitantis thairoff, cum to discretioun of yeris, as thay suld be warnit be the kirk officier, suld compeir, ilk ane within thair awin paroche kirk, to thair awin minister, to be instructit be thame in the groundis of religioun, and heidis of catechisme, and to giff, as thay suld be demandit, ane pruiff and tryell of thair profetting in the saidis heidis, and doctrine teichit to thame out of the chair of veritie, be thair pastures, folowing the exampill of the saidis reformit congregationis, and requyrit of the toun, convenit as said is, thair consentis to the samen, as to ane mater baytht godlie and profitabill to thair saulis comfort; quhilk being proponit, was thocht werray reasonabill, and nane opponit nor obiectit in the contrar, referring the penaltie of the disobedientis to the prouest, bailleis, and counsall

22nd May, 1600.

The quhilk day, the prouest and baillies considering that thair hes bene, and presentlie is, dyvers quarrellis, actionis, and debaittis betuixt and

amongis the maisteris of the fische boittis of Futtie, for feing of thair servandis, quhilk hes beine occasioun of gryt trubill amangis thame, and that dyvers of thair fische boittis hes lyin on land on past to sea, throche vaunt of servandis to serve in the samen be occasioun forsaid: for remeid whairof, hes statute and ordanit, with consent of the haill maisteris of the fische boittis, presentlie convenit and warnit to this day, that it sall nocht be lesum in ony tyme cumming to ony awner or maister of any fische boitt within the said towne of Futtie, to hyre, fie, or conduce ony servand of ony vther maister out of any fische boitt within the said toune of Futtie, without the advyse and consent of the said servandis maister quhom he servit obefoir, haid and obtinit thairto, at the leist without dew advertesment maid be the fear of his said servand to his maister, vpon three monethis day, dewlie maid obefoir famouss witnesses, that he hes feit the said servand, being frie of his said maisteris service, at the term thairefter following; and the persoun fear of ane vther maisteris servand aganis the tenour and mynd of this ordinance, to incur the vnlaw of ten pundis, *toties quoties.* 22nd May, 1600.

The samen day, the prowest and baillies, vpoun dyverse and sindrie complayntis maid and gewin in befoir thame, aganis the inhabitantis of the fischaris of Futtie, for the vrangous and vnjust away tacking and cutting of the towis and cordellis of schippis, boittis, and craris, cuming to the heavin of this burgh, to the gryt hurt and henderance of sic strangeris as repairis to the samen, and siclyk of the towis and cordellis pertening to the maisteris of the saidis boittis of Futtie: for remeid thairof, hes statute and ordanit that gif ony inhabitant of the said toune of Futtie, man or woman, sall be found or apprehendit in the vrangous cutting, melling, and intrometting with ony towis, cordellis, or vtheris guidis or geir furth of schippis, craris, or boittis, repairing to the herbrie of this burght, or fra the nichtbouris boittis within the said towne of Futtie, that the persoun convict thairof, and found giltie of the same, efter his lauchfull convictioun, sall be bund to ane staik within the floode merk during the space of thre houris, quhill the water flow round about him, and thairefter the persoun sa convict sall be tane and scourgit throche the haill towne, and thairefter baneist of the said burght of Aberdeine, fredome of the samen, and of the said toune of Futtie, for euer.

22nd May, 1600. The quhilk day, it being vnderstand to the provest and baillies that the inhabitantis of the towne of Futtie, baith men and wemen, maist vngodlie prophanis the Saboth day, be nocht keping of the sermon within the paroche kirk of the said burghe afoir and efter none; and lykvayes be haulding of the fische mercat within the burght vnder the Castelhill, and vpon vtheris pairtis of the same, vpon the Saboth day, expres aganis Goddis commandement and the louabill ordinance of this burght: thairfor ordanit that all the inhabitantis of the said towne of Futtie, baith men and wemen, sall repair to the paroche kirk of the said burght, to the hering of Goddis word, on everie Sonday befoir and efter none in all tyme cuming, ilk maister, his wyff and femalie, vnder the payne of fourtie penneyis, to be vpliftit be tham sa oft as thay be absent, and that thair sall be na fische sauld be tham, nor na mercatt of fisches haulding or haid be tham or thair servandis within the said burght, vnder the castell in Futtie, nor yit within ony vther pairt of the fredome of the said burght, on the Saboth day in tyme cuming, vnder the paine of escheting of the same, by the vnlaw of twentie s., to be vpliftit of the contraveinar, and that in na fische boitt within the said towne of Futtie, nather maister nor servand pass on ane Sunday to fische on the Saboth day, vnder the paine of fourtie s., to be vpliftit of the contraveinar, *toties quoties.*

The samen day, the saidis prowest and baillies, with consent of the haill maisteris and awnaris of the fische boittis of Futtie, statute and ordanit, that ilk maister and awner of euerie boitt sall pay to the tacksman of the same, and to his servandis in his name, as he sall be requyrit, the just teind of all fisches tackin be him, at quhat tyme he tackis the same, and beis requerit as said is, vnder the paine of fourtie s., to be vpliftit of the contraveinar, *toties quoties*, and war content that letteris of horning wer purchest and rasit at the instance of the said tackismen aganis tham thairvpoun.

1*st July*, 1600.

The said day, the haill inhabitantis of this burght, burgissis, craftismen, and vtheris, alsweill frie as vnfre, being lauchtfullie warnit, at command of the prowest and baillies thairof, to compeir within the tolbuith this day, to the effect vnderwrettin, be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the samen, quhairvpone the beirar maid fayth, and efter the calling of

the suit roll in the tolbuith vindo, the maist pairt of the toune being convenit, representand the haill bodie, it was declarit to thame be Alexander Cullen, provest, that vpon the aucht day of Junij last bypast or thairby, the inhabitantis of the haill burrowis of this realme war chargeit be his maiestie's proclamatioun to meit his hienes at Dumbartane, vpon the tent day of this instant Julij, thairfra to accumpanie his Grace to Kintyir and Ilis thairabout, vnder the pane of tinsell of lyiff, landis, and guidis, and that immediatlie after the said proclamatioun was maid at the mercat croce of this burght, he and the counsall thairof haid wretin to Alexander Rutherfurd, than commissioner for this burght, being than in the conventioun of burrowis at Kingorne, to deall and concur with the remanent burrowis in travelling with his hienes anent the said proclamatioun, for ane ease to the inhabitantis of the burrowis, ather for ane compositioun, or els for furnisching of ane few number of men to his maiestie to the said erand, quha than, be reasoun the tyme vas prorogat be his hienes and counsall to the tuentie fourt of this instant, haid willit the baillies and counsall of Edinburght to travell for this burght as for thameselffis, for the said ease, becaus it was to lang to the said Alexander Rutherford, commissioner, to remaine thairwpoun ; and that vpon the nynt day of this instant his maiestie's proclamatioun at the mercat croce of this burght was proclamit, of a leater delyuerance, chargeing nocht onlie the inhabitantis of the burrowis, but the inhabitantis of dyueris sindrie shirrefdomes, to meit his Majestie or his Graces Lieutenant at Dunbartane, vpoun the tuentie fourt of this instant, to the effect forsaid, vnder the pane aboue exprimit, as the saidis proclamationis, quhilk was publictlie red in audience of the haill towne, did testefe; and that the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, being cairfull that the inhabitantis thairof suld nocht incur ony hurt, damnage, or skeath, for nocht obtempering to the said proclamatioun, the tyme being sa schort, and now approtcheing, haid wrettin to the saidis baillies of Edinburght, to vnderstand and knaw quhat ordour thay haid tackin with his maiestie anent the said proclamatioun, and passing fordvart to the said raid, fearing his maiestie's rigour, feircnes, and extremitie, to be vseit aganis the burrowis, and cheiflie the inhabitantis of this burght, in tyme and with convenient diligence, (his maiestie's mynd be nocht notifeit and knawin in the said matter) quhow and in quhat maner the burrowis sall obey the said charge and proclamatioun, the haill inhabitantis thairof, betuix sextie and sexteine, being sub-

1st July 1600.

1st July, 1600.

ject thairto, and becaus thair is onlie ten or tuelff dayis space grantit for meting with his maiestie or his liuetenant at Dumbartane, the tyme being sa schort, it was thocht guid be the counsall, that the perrell quhilk this burght and inhabitantis thairof was liklie to incur, incase they obtemperit nocht the said proclamatioun, and war nocht reddie to obtemper and obey, ather evere man in his awin persoun, or els in paying of the subsidie and taxatioun, as sall happin to be imposit or sett downe vpon this burght, to be payit ather in money, or els be furnishing of sic number of men as sall be appoyntit to this burght, quhidder be his Maiestie or be the haill burrowis, sould be declarit, and that the inhabitantis sould find na just occasioun of skaith and negligence in this sa vechtie a matter to lay to thair charge, requerring the towne and haill inhabitantis thairof to bear record of thair diligence thairin; and for this caus, the said Alexander Cullen, prouest, requerit the towne, convenit as said is, be reasoun the tyme was sa schort, to presentlie nominat, cheis, and elect thrie or four maist discreit persones of euerie quarter of the towne, to be stentaris to stent the inhabitantis thairof, fre and vnfre, for the sowme that sall be apointit and ordanit to this burght be his Maiestie, for abyding fra the said raid, and discharge of the said proclamatioun, gif ony sovme sall be imposit be his hienes thairvpoune, or els to stent and taxt sic ane sowme of money as extendis to this burghtis pairt, according to the generall stent roll of the burrowis of the haill compositioun that salbe agreit on be the burrowis to giff to his maiestie for the caussis forsaidis, or for furnissing of sic a number of men to be send to meit his Maiestie's Livetenent, at the day forsaid, as this towne salbe stentit to, for avoiding the gryter perrell that may ensew, incace his Maiestie vse rigour, and that the prouest and baillies may be fund heirby to haue advertesit thame of thair skayth, and doing all that becummis thame to do be verteu of thair office, quhilkis taxtaris the said provest oft and dyverse tymes desyrit the inhabitantis of this burght to nominat and cheise, as thay would eschew thair gryter perrell; nochtwithstanding of the quhilk requesitioun, thay vald nawayes nominat nor cheis taxtaris to the effect forsaid; thairfor the said Alexander Cullen, provest, for himselff, and in name of the baillies, protestit that he and thay may be hauldin to haue done thair diligence in macking of dew advertesment to the towne of thair perrell aud skeath, that thay war liklie to incur be reasoun of the said proclamatioun, and thair nocht electing and nominating taxtaris to the effect forsaid, and that

ony perrell that sould cum be thame, sould nocht be imput to the provest and baillies, be reasoun foirsaid; and lykwayes, the said Alexander Cullen, prouest, causit publictlie reid, in audience of the toune, convenit as said is, ane act maid in the last conventioun of burrowis, hauldin at Kingorne, in the moneth of Junij immediatlie bygane, at his hienes desyre, ordaining the haill principall burrowis of this realme, burgessis and inhabitantis thairoff, to mack thair musturis and vapinschawis monethlie, vpoun the first Mounday of evere moneth, and thairfoir requerit thame to be in reddines to mack thair mustoris on Mononday nixt, the fourteine of this instant, and to prepair thameselffis that day to accompanie thair magistrattis, weill bodin in thair armes, according to his Maiestie's proclamatioun maid thairanent obefoir, under the panes contenit thairintil; and ilk persoun absent vpoun the said fourtene day fra thair musteris, betuix ten and ellevin, to incur the vnlaw of fyve pundis vnforgevin, and that they be in reddines and veil preparit to gif thair musteris and vapinschawis the first Mononday of ilk moneth thairefter, according to the said act of burrowis, and his Maiestie's missive thairin contenit, as they will eschew the perrell contenit in his Maiestie's proclamatiounis, and vnder all hiest paine that thay may incur, throw nocht macking of the said muster in maner foirsaid; and vpoun the haill premisses, the said Alexander Cullen, provest, for himselff, and in name of the bailies, tuik act and instrument. 1st July 1600.

9th July, 1600.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that in tymes bygane this toune hes bene oftymes trublit be persones, men and wemen, of mein estate, not worthie nor habile in thair gudes to satisfie and pay the townes unlaw for thair offence, far les to pay ony satisfactioun to the parties offendit be thame, quhilk hes gevin occasioun to men to trubill thair nichtbouris, be hurting, wounding, and blude-drawing, and uthervayes be committing of deidis of wrang, and to sklander, detract, and iniure thair nichtbouris, seing na certane punischement of thair bodies was sett down to hawe bene usit againe thame: for remeid quhairof, hes statute and ordanit that quhatsumeuer persone beis convict heirefter for trubling of thair nichtbouris, ather be word or deid, not being habill in gudes to pay the townis unlaw, nor to satisfie the parties offendit, that the said persone, man or woman, sall be tackin and put in the stockis, thairin to ly be the space of tuentie-four houris, and thair-

9th July, 1600.

efter, being takin out of the stockis, to be had incontinentlie to the joggis, and put thairin, to remane be the space of sex houris togidder untakin furth ; and gif ony persone beis tuyis convict in trubling thair nichtbouris as said is, not being habill to satisfie in geir to the town and partie, to be baneschit thairefter this burght and fredome theirof, induring the will of the counsall.

14*th July*, 1600.

The said day, the inhabitantis of this burght, baith fre and vnfre, fensible persones, at command of the prouest and baillies thairof, and for obedience of his Maiesties lawes and proclamationis maid anent macking of wapinschawis, and for filling of the act of burrowis maid at the last conventioun thairof, at Kingorne, vpon the [ ] day of Junij last bypast, war convenit and assemblit in thair armour, and gaiff thair musteris to the prouest and baillies, ilk persoun being callit efter the ordour of the suit roll in the braid linkis of this burght, as the wintit and vseit place apointit for the samen to the inhabitantis, and the absentis notit, and ilk persoun absent, nocht knawin to be out of the realme, in the south pairtis of this realme, or yit seik, decernit in ane vnlaw of fyve pundis, to be vpliftit be the dean of gild, quhais names ar in the roll of absentis, besyds the perrell that thay may incur for disobeying of his Maiesties proclamatioun, and efter thair incuming furth of the saidis linkis in ordour to this burght and mercatt place thairof, be oppin proclamatioun and loud voce at the mercat croce of the samen, the haill inhabitantis of this burght, fensibill persones, fre and vnfre, war chargeit be Adame Robertsoun, ane of the ordinar officiaris of the samen, in name of his Maiestie and of the prouest and baillies of the said burght, that thay and euerie ane of thame prepair and addres thameselfis and be redie to giff thair mustoris vpoun the first Monunday of August nixt to cum, quhilk is the fourt day of the said moneth, weill furneist and arrayit with muscatt, hagbute, jak spear, steilbonat, corslat, according to his Maiesties actis and proclamationis maid thairanent, vnder the panis contenit in the samen ; certifeing sic as sall be absent the said day, to giff thair mustoris in thair armes as said is, and at all vther dayes appointit for wapinschawing and mustering, according to his Maiesties proclamatioun and actis of burrowis maid thairanent, as they sall be requerit and warnit theirto be the drum, that the absentis sall incur the paine of disobedience

conforme to his Maiesties proclamatioun, besyde the vnlaw of fyve pundis to be vpliftit of ilk ane of the absentis be the deane of gild, vnforgevin, but lauchfull excuse, as said is. 14th July 1600.

23rd September, 1600.

The said day, the haill toune, being convenit within the tolbuyth, and the brether of gild and merchandis for the maist pairt being assemblit, yit as obefoir, grantit, consentit, and agreit that ane commoun box suld be maid, quhilk was this day presentit in judgement be Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, to be callit in all tyme cumming the merchandis box, and the siluer to be collectit be the saidis merchandis, quhairof the particularis folowis, to be put thairin, imployit and bestowit for the help and support of the decayit merchandis and brether of gild of this burght, and that the deane of gild for the tyme sall euer hawe the keping of the said box, quha salbe hauldin to hawe ane buik, quhairin salbe wretin be the merchand ingever of any sowme to the box, the quantitie of the sowme input be him, the day of the inputting thairoff, with the dait of the yeir, quhilk the merchand ingevar salbe hauldin to subscrive, gif he can wreit, and gif he can not wreit, to be subscrivat be a notar for him, and the three keyis of the said box to be kepit be thrie seuerall persones, to be chosin yeirlie at the feist of Michelmes be consent of the brether of gild, of the quhilkis thrie persones thay ordane the thesaurer of this burght for the tyme ever to be ane, and the uther tua persones to be of the merchand estate; and to this effect nominat Dauid Fergussoun and Robert Keytht to be keparis of tua of the said thrie keyis, quhill the feist of Michaelmes in the yeir of God one thousand, sex hundreth, and ane yeiris, sua that the dean of gild, quha is kepar of the box, sall novayes hawe the keping of ony of the keyis thairof. Folowis the particularis and accidentis devysit to be input in the said box: in the first, all merchandis passand to thair woyages furth of Scotland to ony forane cuntrie, at the electioun of thair foud or justiciar, in thair wayages furth and hame, the fowd, and his clerk that vayage, sall be ansuirabill to the said box of all unlawis and convictionis of merchandis for swering, banning, or tacking the Lordis name in waine, all unlawis incurrit be the saidis merchandis for pleying, mispersoning, iniurring, or bludevict, betuixt merchand and merchand, in thair saidis wayages, ather be land or be sey, the almess collectit ilk day, or ilk secund or third day, in the sey, efter Goddis service and ordinar prayeris in the

23rd Sept., 1600.

morning, all sowmes of money promesit, and conditiones to the pure, in tymes of distres and storme of wether, in perell and danger of thair lyvis, be the merchandis: everie merchand, or sa mony of ane schippis merchandis as waschis thair heidis in France, Flanderis, Danskin, or uther cuntries, to gif and collect to the said box, to the honour of God, and thair pure and nedie brethrene, and to thair vyffis and bairnis left in pouertie and distres.

Everie persoun admittit frie burges of gild of the said burght, the tyme of his admissioun sall pay to the said box sex s. viii. d., and farder as thay sall be movit to giff.

Everie Goddis pennie gevin betuixt merchand and merchand at the macking of ony blok or bargane (being endit), and als Goddis penneis gevin at the frauchting of schippis, sall be givin in to the said box.

3rd December, 1600.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, in respect of the fearfull infectioun of the plaig of pestilence spred abrod in dyveris pairtis of Murray, hes thocht gude and expedient that thair sall be a publict fast and humiliatioun of all the inhabitantis of this burght on Sonday nixt, and that the same be intimat on Setterday nixt be the drum passand throw the haill rewis of this burght.

20th March, 1601.

The quhilk day, the prouest and baillies fand that Gilbert Mayne, quhytfischer in Futtie, maister and avner of ane of the fische boittis thairof, hes sufficientlie verefeit and provin that vpon the sevintene day of Marche instant, tymouslie in the morning, he in the main sey, sevin or aucht myllis aff schoir, had laid his gryt lyine in ane frie birth, and that Willeam Willeamsoun, Dauid Brown, Gilbert Blak, Patrik Huchoun, Willeam Michell, quhyt fischeris thair, in the boit pertening to Robert Feddes, had wrangouslie haillit the said Gilbert Maynis gryt lyinis furth of his said birth roume, first takin be him, and had cassin thame in the sey, in ane pairt far distant thairfra, and therfor the saidis Willeam Willeamsoun, Dauid Brown, Gilbert Blak, Patrik Huchoun, and Willeam Michell, war convict and put in ammerciament of court, and the prouest and baillies ordanit the said Gilbert to be repossessit agane to his said birth roume, quhair his lynis was wranguslie haillit be the saidis persones,

to be keipit be him for this yeir, and becaus thair hes bene and is continewallie gryt trubill amangis the saidis fischeris of Futtie for thair birth rowmes in the main sey, thairfor for eschewing of all trubill and debait to be amangis thame heirefter for thair birth rowmes, ordanit according to the ordinance maid in ancient tymes, that it sall not be lesum to ony of the saidis fischeris in Futtie, in ony tyme cumming, to tack the said birth rowme quhill the first day of Marche yeirlie, gif it be fair, or the first fair day thairefter folowing of the said moneth, to be kepit be the first tacker of the birth rowme, for that yeir and seasoun allanerlie, except he be the first tacker of the same the nixt yeir thairefter; and that it sall not be lesum to any of the saidis fischeris to pretend or allege ony richt to any birth rowme in the sey, bot for a year allanerlie, except he be the first tacker thairof yeirlie, the first day of Marche or the first fair day thairefter as said is, and the fischer convict for contraveining the ordinance, to incur the vnlaw of fyve pundis, *toties quoties* 20th March 1601.

The said day, Willeame Brabner, Patrik Huchoun, and James Symsoun, quhytfischeris in Futtie, wer convict and put in amerciament of court, for the wrangous melling, intrometting with, cutting and avay tacking of ane gryt trie out of the blokhous pertening to the towne, in the moneth of Februar last bypast, quhilk was werefeit aganis thame be thair awin confessionis, gevin in presens of the saidis prouest and baillies.

The samen day, the prouest and baillies commandit and chargit the haill maisteris of the fische boittis in Futtie, being all personallie present, that nane of thame ressaue nor accept Willeam Brabner, quhytfischer thair, to serve in any of thair fische boittis, or to sett him ane hous fra Witsonday furth nixt to cum, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of ten pundis, to be incurrit be the fischer contraveining; and that becaus it was fund and sufficientlie tryit that the said Willeam is ane vnlauchfull persoun, and hes bene oftymes convict in dyvers poyntis of pyckrie, and thairby navayes to be sufferit to duell any longer in the said toune of Futtie: and lykvayes it was ordanit that the maister of euerie fische boitt sall be answerabill for all his servandis, in cace any of thame be notit with the cutting of towis, or committing of any poynt of thift or knawerie in tyme

20th March, 1601. cumming, quhilk was intimat to the haill maisteris of Futtie personallie present.

The samen day, the prouest and baillies ordanis Archbald Cadenheid, ane of the maisteris of the fische boittis of Futtie, to retene the possessioun of the birth rowme takin be him this present yeir in the sey, for laying of his gryt lynis, quhill the first day of Marche nixt to cum, nochtwithstanding of the richt acclamit thairof be Willeam Willeamsoun, maister of Robert Fiddes boitt, seing it was sufficientlie verefeit that the said Archibald had first takin the said birth rowme.

1st April, 1601.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanit Alex^r^· Kempt, dean of gild, to delyuer to Johne Gray, merchand, present occupear of the eistmast merchand buyth under the tolbuyth of this burght, the numer of tuentie-four deallis to be bestowit and imployit be the said Johne in the macking of the said tolbuyth stepill, the knok standing in the same, and of the said merchand buyth watterthicht, quhilk the counsall ordanis to be done be the advise and ouersicht of Alex^r^· Cullen and Dauid Andersoun, maister of the kirk wark.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, gevis and grantis licence and tollerance to Alexander Kempt, dean of gild, to big and erect ane dask in the new kirk of this burght, at the south piller narrest the new loft, and that upon the said Alexanderis supplicatioun presentit to the counsall thairanent.

8th April, 1601.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, appoyntis and ordanis Maister James Cargill, doctour of phisick, to try the qualeficatioun of George Pacok and Alex^r^· Wilsoun, chirurgianis, in the art of chirurgerie, and gif thay be meitt and qualefeit to exerce and use the said airt, and be skilfull in the haill poyntis belanging to the samen, quhilk tryall the counsall ordanis to be takin within the space of ane moneth nixt efter the daitt heirof, to the effect it may be knawin to the counsall that nane exercise the said airt, bot sic as ar sufficientlie qualefeit and skillit to

discharge the same according to the custume of all reformit commoun weillis in uther cuntries. 8th April, 1601.

29*th April*, 1601.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, in presens of Alex^r^. Fuddes, Johne Nicolsoun, youngar, William Schankis, Archibald Cadenheid, Gilbert Atholl, Robert Gyane, Alex^r^. Dauidsoun, Johne Nicolsoun, elder, Gilbert Maine, maisteris and avneris of the fische boittis in Futtie, expreslie inhibitit thame or thair servandis to tack vpon hand to pas to the read to bring aschoir ony man, guidis, or geir, furth of ony schipe gryt or small, that sall arryue thairvnto, without licence haid and obtenit, of the provest and ane of the baillies to that effect, vnder the paine of ten pundis to be payit be the contravenar, besyd his lyff, to be in the maggistrattis will, except that it sall be lesum to tham quhan ony schipe or crair, small or gryt, cumis to the herborie, to speik thaim on passit abuird, quhill they com aschoir, and get licence of the provest or baillie to pas abuird, and bring man or geir aschoir: quhairvnto the saidis fischaris voluntarlie grantit and obleist thame to obey and fulfill the samen, vnder the paines forsaidis.

4*th August*, 1601.

The said day, anent his Maiestie's proclamatioun, publeschit throche all the cheiff burrowis of this realme, mackand intimatioun of ane act of parliament maid in the moneth of November last, ordaining that in all tymes and ages to cum, the fyft day of August yeirlie be appointit and kepit in all presbitereis and parochinis of this realme, and within the haill boundis of his Maiestie's dominionis, for publict preitching and solemne thankisgeving to God, for the miraculous and extraordiner delyverie, quhilk his Majestie receavit fra the horrible murthour and paricide attemptit aganis his hienes, be the tratour Govrie and vmquhile Mr. Alexander Ruthven, his brother, vpoun the fyft day of August j^m^, and sex hundreth yeiris, as at mair lenth is contenit in the said proclamatioun, quhairof the tenour followis: James, be the grace of God, King of Scottis, to oure louittis, Jhone Crawfurd, messinger, [ ] messingeris, oure schireffis in that pairt, coniunctlie and seueraly, speciale constitute, greting, forsamekle as it becometh all our subjectis in generall, and everie ane of tham in particular, be ane grytfull rememberance, and solemne declara-

4th August, 1601.

tioun of the invart joy of thair hartis, to acknavledge ony singular benefite quhilk they haue receavit at the handis of God, be humbile and eirnest prayeris and thanksgeving to his Maiestie for the same, and we acknavledgeing, and haveing in memorie that inestimable favour and singular benefite of God bestowit vpoun ws, and consequentlie vpoun the haill bodye of our realme, be that miraculous and extraordiner delyverie quhilk we receavit fra the horrible and detestable murthour and paricide attemptit aganis our persoun, be the tratour Govrie and vmquhill Alex^r^· Ruthven, his brother, and thair complices, vpoun the fyft day of August last bypast, we can nocht forgett to continew thankfull to God for the same, and douttis nocht bot that all our guid and loving subiectis, quha with ws ar compartineris of the said benefite, ar moved with the lyk thankfull dispositioun, in prayeris and thankisgeving to God; lykas, vpoun the consideratioun heirof, our estatis of parliament convenit at Edinburgh in the moneth of November last, statute and ordanit, that in all tymes and ages to cum, the fyft day of August yeirlie be appointit and keipit in all presbeteries and parochinis within oure realme, and within the haill boundis of our dominionis, for publict preitching and solemne thankisgeving to God, for our benefite and favour forsaid, bestowit vpoun our haill land, and everie inhabitant thairof, be our extraordinar benefite the day foirsaid, and that as ane perpetuall monument of thair thankfull hartis, be yeirlie reiterating of thair gryt joy in solemne praising of the michtie hand of God, for our preservatioun foirsaid, and leist the mynd and will of our saidis estatis throw default of dew publicatioun of the said act, suld be vnknawin to ony of our guid subjectis, quha being excedinglie rejoicit, and desyrous to mack the same notour to all the warld, sould laik a sufficient warrand to vtter thair thankfull dispositioun, baith towardis God and ws, to celebrate the said day in maner aboue wrettin: Oure will is heirfoir, and we charge you straitlie, and commandis that incontinent thir oure letteris seine, ye pas and in our name and authoritie, mack publicatioun heirof to all and sindrie our leigis and subjectis, aslweill to burght as land, be oppin proclamatioun at the mercatt croces of the heid burrowis of our realme, and vtheris places neidfule, and that ye command and charge all oure saidis leigis and subjectis to keip the said fyft day of August solemne yeirlie, fra all sort of handie labour, wark, and vther serious occupatioun, quhilk on nawayes may distrack thame fra the foirsaid exerceis of thankisgeving to God, and to this effect that they be ad-

monist the Saboth preceding the fyft day of August nixt to cum, be thair pastureis, to assist the preitching and publict thankisgeving during the tyme of the sermonis, quhilk we ordaine to be baith in landvart afoirnone, and in all burrow townis, baith afoirnone and efternone, and that they spend the said day in all civile and lauchfull glaidnes, as they sall find thameselffis best disposit, provyding they vse na excess, sclanderous, or insolent behaviour, and that all our magistrattis, nobill men, and baronis, of ilk estaite and degrie of personis, vtter and declair, be thair behaviour within the boundis of thair commandiment, or quhair it sall happin thame to be the said day, thair thankfulnes towardis God, and reiocing for our happie preservatioun, wrocht sa miraculouslie be Goddis divyne providence the day foirsaid, certefeing all and sindrie persones quha sall do in the contrare heirof, ather be absenting thameselffis fra thair kirkis in tyme of sermone and thankisgeving, or in the rest of thair behaviour during the said day, nocht vttering be thair actionis, taikinis of joy, and cheirfull rememberance of the said benefite, that thay salbe repute and hauldin as vnthankfull to God, vnvorthie of sa gryt a benefite, and suspect to haue beine allowaris of the detestable attempt foirsaid, the quhilk to do we committ to you, coniunctly and seueraly, our full power be thir our letteris, delyvering the same to yow dewlie execute and indorsate againe to the bearar, gevin vnder our signett at Halyruidhouse, the sexteine day of Junij, and of our reigne the xxxiiii. yeir, 1601, per *actum secreti consilii.* Quhairwith the baillies and counsall advysing, to the effect the actioun of thankisgeving may be the mair solemne, and that the said proclamatioun may be the mair manifest to all inhabitantis of this burght, ordanis proclamatioun to be maid be the drum throw the haill rewis of the towne, warning all the inhabitantis of this burght to keip the sermones the morne, baith afoir and efter none, and dischargeing all haulding of ony mercatt, or exercing of ony handie labour within this burght, and inhibiting any buith dore to be oppinit, ather be merchand or craftisman, the said day, bot that everie ane, efter the preitching and thankisgeving, spend the rest of the day in all lauchfull and honest gladnes, and accompanie thair magistrattis throw the towne in singing of psalmes and prasing of God, and ordanis the croce to be dectit and hung, and ane tabill to be sett thairat, and the wyne and spycerie to be drunkin and spent, and a nvmber of glassis to be cassin and brockin in significatioun of thair reiocing and glaid hartis, for his Majestie's happie preservatioun, wrocht sa mira-

4th August, 1601.

4th August, 1601.

culouslie be Goddis guid providence the day foirsaid, and ordanis the thesaurer and deane of gild to furneis the wyne and spycerie, in sic quantatie, and in sic decent and ciuile maner as may serve for the townis honour, and the expenssis to be debursit be thame thairon, to be allowit to tham in thair comptis.

2nd September, 1601.

The samen day, vpoun the supplicatioun gevin in be the counsall be Dauid Hearing, quha had bene serving thir sindrie yeris bygane in the Emperouris wearis aganis the Turk, ordanis Alex^r^. Kempt, dean of gild, to gif the said Dauid ane crowne for his support, quhilk salbe allowit to the said dean of gild in his comptis.

22nd September, 1601.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, counsall, and auditouris of the townis comptis, remembering the labouris and travellis takin be Maister Thomas Cargill, maister of the Grammer School of this burght, in macking of ane treatise in latin congratulating his Majestie's delyuerie, for his Grace's preseruatioun fra the lait conspiracie attemptit aganis his hienes persoun, be umquhill the Erll of Gowrie, conteining sum commemoratioun of this burghis antiquitie and previlegis, grantit thairunto be his Majestie's predicessouris, quhilk he dedicat to this burght, thairfor ordanit the sowme of tuentie pundis to be gevin to the said Mr. Thomas, for gratefeing of his panis takin in the said mater, to be payit to him be Alex^r^. Burnett, maister of the impost, &c.

9th October, 1601.

The samen day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall ordanis the sowme of threttie-tua merkis to be gevin to the kingis servandis presentlie in this burght, quha playes comedies and staige playes, be reasoun thay ar recommendit be his majestie's speciall letter, and hes played sum of thair comedies in this burght, and ordanis the said sowme to be payit.

4th November, 1601.

The quhilk day, Johne Folan, Barbara Dowglace, elder, and Barbara Dowglace, younger, war removit and baneschit this burght and fredome thairoff, be oppin proclamatioun at the mercatt croce of the samen, with

certificatioune to thame, that giff thay sall be apprehendit within this burght or friedome thairof thaireftir, to be brint on the cheik, and perpetuallie in all tyme thairefter baneschit, and with certificatioune to sic burgessis and indwellaris thairof as sall ressaue thame in ony tyme cumming eftir lauchfull convictioun, to incur the vnlaw of ten pundis vnforgevin, and that becaus they wer apprehendit one Sonday last, the first of this instant, in tyme of sermon, drinking and wasting Goddis guid creatures superflueslie, iydile personis, without ony kynd of service or lauchfull forme of leving, vnknawin fra quhat pairt of this realme they laitlie come to this burght. 4th Nov., 1601.

6th February, 1602.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, auld and new counsallis of the said burgh, efter dew tryall and examinatioun had of the literature and qualificatioun of Maister Dauid Wedderburne and Mr. Thomas Reid, craving and suting to be maisteris of the grammer school of this burght, vacand be deceis of vmquhill Maister Thomas Cargill, last maister thairof, be publict teiching in audience of the prouest, baillies, consell, and leirnit men betuixt the tua townis, on oratrie and poesie, and be compositioun in prose and verse be the space of four dayes, acceptit ressauit, and admittit the said Maister Dauid and Maister Thomas to be coequall and coniunct maisteris of the grammer schooll of this burght, for instructioun of the youth in the airt of grammer, gude letteris, and maneris, as becumis thame of thair offices quhill the feist of Candilmes nixt to cum, in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and thrie yeris, vpoun thair gude service and diligence to be takin be thame in the said office, and during the will of the counsell allanerlie, observand and kepand the injunctiounis to be gevin and prescryvit to thame be the counsell, anent concord to be betuixt thameselffis, teiching of the youth in thair lessones bayth of grammer, and authoris, and vsing of discipline, and ordanis thame to hawe the anniversarie stipend quhilk the said vmquhill Maister Thomas Cargill had obefoir: to vit, the sowme of fourscoir pundis to be payit to thame be the thesaurer of this burgh at Witsonday and Martemes be equall portionis, and to hawe the same salarie and scholage payit to thame be the townis barnis, as was payit to the said vmquhill Maister Thomas Cargill, viz., sex s. aucht d. in the quarter, and thrie schillingis four penneis quhilk was in vse to be payit to the doctour, extending in

6th February, 1602.

all, quhilk the townis bairnis sould pay quarterlie, to ten schillingis, and na mair to be payit be thame, and to hawe sic salarie and scholege of the landwart bairnis, as the said vmquhill Maister Thomas was in vse to tak or sic as thay may hawe of thame of thair awin liberalitie, the towne being alvayes disburdenit be the saids maisteris of all finding of doctouris, seing the salarie in vse to be payit to thame is now appoyntit to be payit to the saidis maisteris; and Alex^r. Cullen, prouest, with the baillies and dyveris of the counsall past to the said grammer schooll, and gawe to the said Maister Dauid and Maister Thomas institution of the said office, be delyuering to thame of ane grammer buke, to be coequall and coniunct maisteris as said is, quha gawe thair aythis for thair diligent and faithfull discharge of the said office, instructing of the youth in gude letteris and maneris, and cairfull attending on doctrine and discipline at all houris.

17*th February*, 1602.

The quhilk day, William Skene, burges of the said burgh, was accusit in judgement be Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, for bearing, wearing, vsing of pistolettis and daggis within this burgh and territorie thairof, forbiddin to be borne, worne, or vsit be the actis of parliament, and speciallie for bearing, having, and vsing of ane pistoll and puitternell vpon the sextene of this instant, and presenting the same, to hawe schott at Andro Hay, ane of the ordinar officieris of this burght, within the borrow ruidis of the same burght, neir and ewest the Gallowgett Port thairof, and thairby incurring the paines contenit in the saidis actis of Parliament; and the said Willeam being personallie present denyit the said accusatioun, quhilk was therfore referrit to the knawledge of the assise, chosin, sworne, and admittit in judgement; quhilk assise being furth of court removit, and inclusit within the consalhous, and haveing takin tryell of the accusatioun aboue writtin, entering agane in court, they all in ane voce, be the mouth of James Mengzeis, chancellar, fand that the said William Skene, vpon the said sextene day of this instant, had borne, vsit, and worne ane pistolett and puitternell, quhilk was apprehendit vpon him the tyme forsaid, be Andro Hay, ane of the ordinar officeris of the said burght, and this day presentit vpon the commoun keist be the said Andro aganis the actis of parliament, and thairin the haill assise convictit the said William in ane vnlaw of ten pundis, to be payit be him to the dean of gild within fourtie aucht houris, to be imployit be

him to the support of the pure, and ordanit the said puitternell and pistoll to be escheatt, and the said Willeam to sett sourtie and cautioun befoir he pas furth of the tolbuith of this burgh, for his forbearing in tyme cumming to wear, bear, or vse pistolettis or gunnis in contrar the tenour of the saidis actis of parliament, vnder the paine of doubling of the said vnlaw of ten pundis, and that he depairt nocht furth of the tolbuith, quhairin he is presentlie in ward, quhill the said souertie be sett, and the said vnlaw payit, and that but prejudice of the vther painis specifeit in the act of the fyftene parliament of his Maiestie, maid vpon the xix. day of December j^{m} v^{c} nyntie-sevin yeiris, aganis the beraris, vsaris, and schuteris of pistollis and daggis, anent the confiscatioun of thair gudis moveable according thairto. 17th February, 1602.

24*th February*, 1602.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, vpon the supplicatioun of Mr. Dauid Wedderburne and Mr. Thomas Reid, maisteris of the grammer schoole of this burght, ordanis Willeam Dwn, thesaurer, to advance to thame thair stipend quhilk thay hawe of the towne of the Witsonday terme nixt to cum, extending to the sowme of fourtie pundis, quhilk sall be allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis.

17*th March*, 1602.

The quhilk day, the haill towne being convenit in the tolbuyth be the handbell, and ilk man being inquyrit efter the ordour of the sute roll, to gif his voit quhidder or not the boit of Borrowstounnes, presentlie in the raid of this herbrie, quherof Alex^{r}. Burnett and Johne Nobill ar merchandis, sall be sufferit to enter within the herbrie of this burght or nocht, seing the saidis merchandis hes suspect geir, as is alledgit, in the said boit, that com out of Glasgow, and vther suspect places, that ar infectit with the plaig of pestilence, the haill towne, for the maist pairt, votit that the said boit, nor na persoun within the same, nor na guidis nor geir thairin, suld be sufferit to enter in within this herbrie, bot that thay suld be compellit to depairt with thair said boit and gudis from this burght and herbrie, and altogidder debarrit fra entering in the same, quhairvpon Alex^{r}. Cullen, prouest, tuke instrument.

7th April, 1602.

7th April, 1602.

The quhilk day, Patrik Hutcheoun, quhytfischer in Futtie, wes convict and put in amerciament for the dinging, striking, and injuring of Barbara Leask, spows of [ ], quhytfyscher in Futtie, quha wes presentlie put in ward within the tolbuith, and thair ordanit to remane ay and quhill he sett cautioun for the modeficatioun of his vnlaw, and that he sall nocht truble the said Barbara heirefter, nor nane vtheris, his nychtbouris in Futtie, vnder the pane of ten pund, for the quhilk Mr. Alex. Irwing becum cautioun.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, anent the supplicatioun gevin in this day to the prouest, baillies, and counsell be Marjorye Vrquhart, berand that scho hes bene ane auld inhabitant within this burght, and now by the providens of God becom agit and weak, and throw cours of nature nocht liklie to leve lange, albeit thir mony yeris scho haid nocht mekill geir to sustene hirselff one, yit navayes burdenable to the toun nor counsell, desyring therfor quhen it suld pleise God to call hir fra this lyff, scho may hawe hir bodye and banes bureit within the sowth yle of the new kirk thairoff, and that frelie of thair guidnes, becaus hir executouris wald nocht haue mekill geir to pay for hir buriall: quhilk supplicatioun they found ressonabill, and ordanit hir to haue hir buriall place within the said iyle, but payment of ony dewtie therfor to the maister of kirk wark, quhairanent thir presentis sall be his varrand.

13th April, 1602.

The quhilk day, Alex^{r} Cullen, prouest, exponit and declarit this day to the haill town, assemblit in thair heid court, that thair was four lowable and guid statutis maid obefoir be the prouest, baillies, and counsell of this burght, and ratefeit be the haill town, the first of the dait the xxviii. day of Maij, the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} lxxxxv, yeris, anent the keiping of the sermonis one the Sabboth day and owlk dayis, als weill be the maisteris of the craftismen, as burgessis of gyld, and be thair servandis, one the Sabboth day, contening penalteis of the contraveinaris theroff efter convictioun, without lauchfull excuse, or infirmitie, or absens of the toun; the secund statut, concerning the iydill personis and vagabundis furth of this

burth, and setting of howssis to thame, and to sic personis as hes not ane knawin service, and lauchtfull forme of leving, of the dait foirsaid, contening the vnlaw of ten pundis be the contraveinar thairof, sa aft as they sal happin to be convict; the third ordinance, maid on the tent day of Januar, 1596 yeiris, prohibiting all byeris of fresche salmound fische, alsweill within the burgh, fredome theiroff, or owtwith the same, ather in the townis watteris or burrouis watteris, except at the mercatt croce of this burght, alsweill efter nowne as affoir nowne, vnder the paines thairin contenit; and the fourt, of the dait the said tent day of Januar, and yeir foirsaid, maid anent transporteris of folzie furth of this burght to otheris lordis and lairdis landis lyand owtwith the fredome and territorie thoirof, and aganis sic persones within the burgh, as sellis fulzie or guding to extranearis, for guiding and manuring of thair landis, nocht lyand within the fredome and territoreis forsaid, quhilkis four ordinances wer publictlie intimatt to the toun, quha wer moneist be the said prouest, to obserue and keip the samen in all poyntis, according to the mynd and tennour thairoff, and with certificatioune, and vnder the paines and vnlawes thairin contenit, to be incurrit be the contraveinaris, quhairvpon the said Alex^r. Cullen, prouest, tuik act and instrument. And Mr. Patrick Chein, burges of the some burght, heretable fewer and possessour of the landis of Ferryhill, and Androw Brabner, burgesse thairof, possessour of the landis of Spittell, dissasentit to the said ordinance maid anent the transporting of folzie, protestand that the samen be nawayis prejudiciall to thame, anent the vse of transporting of folzie to thair landis, quhilkis they allegit thame to have haid in tymes bygane, and thairvpoun tuik act and instrument. 13th April, 1602.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, for the better observing and keping of the Sabboth day heirefter one prophanit, be the vngodlie custome that hes bene in tymes bygane vsit, be inbringing of fewell and peittis within this burght one the Sabboth day, nocht onlie be the seruandis of the inhabitantis of this burght, bot lykewayis be extranearis dwelling to landwart, and rownd abowt this burght, selling and disponing of the said fewall and peittis to the inhabitantis and indwellaris thairoff; for the restrening of the quhilk vngodlie vse, it wes statut and ordanit be the provest, baillies, and haill communitie, convenit this day in thair heid court, that the peittis and fewall quhilkis salbe apprehendit and fund fra this day furth within this

13th April, 1602. burght one the Sabboth day, to quhomsoever the same belangis to, ather indwellar or extranear, to be sauld or nocht sauld, salbe escheitt, delt, and gevin to the hospitall of this burght, and the byer or ressauer of the saidis fewall or peittis sall pay fyve schillingis for [ilk] hors lead that sal happin tham to by or ressaue on the Sabboth day, to be wptakin withowt fawour, and distributit to the vse of the puire.

15th June, 1602.

The said day, Janet Wischert, spous of Willeam Gib, was convict and put in amerciament of court for the mispersoning and injuring of Willeam Mar, yongar, in calling him kaird-facit kairll, and for vsing of execrations and cursingis agane the said Willeam, in sitting doun on hir kneis and praying lat never sie nor salt watter bear him; to forbeir, &c.

4th August, 1602.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considering that be act of his Majestie's parliament, maid in the moneth of November, the yeir of God j^{m} and sex hundreth yeris, the fyft day of August is appoyntit to be kepit yeirlie in all tyme cumming for publict preitching and solemne thankisgeving to God, for the mervellows delywerie quhilk his Maiestie ressauit fra the horrible murthour attemptit aganis his hienes, be vmquhil the Erll of Gowrie, and Mr. Alex^{r}. Ruthven, his bruther, vpon the fyft day of August, the yeir of God j^{m} and sex hundreth yeris; thairfoir ordanis the haill inhabitantis of this burght, baith men and wemen, to be warnit be the drum passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, to keip the sermonis the morne in the paroche kirk of this burgh, bayth afoir and efter none, and ordanis the mercat croce to be hung, and the wyne and spycerie to be drunkin and spent thairat, and a numer of glasses to be brockin and cassin, in signe and tokin of thair reiosing hartis for his Maiestie's preservation, and ordanis the thesaurer to furneis the wyne, spycerie, and glassis, in sic quantitie, and in sic decent and cumlie maner, as may stand with the townis honour, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said thesaurer thairon, to be allowit to him in his comptis.

18th August, 1602.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall hes appointit and nominat Dauid Cargell, deane of gild of this burgh, to pas to the Marques

of Huntlie, with the townis missive, desyring to knaw of his Lordship quhat ordour salbe folowit and takin be this burght anent his Maiestie's proclamatioun, maid vpon the haill liegis, als weill to burgh as land, within the schirefdome of Abirdene, and vtheris schirefdomes be north the samen, for meting his Majestie's Lieutenant at Inuernes the tuentie day of September nixt to cum, thairfra to pas vpon the Lewis with fourtie dayes loin, and to report bak the said Marques answer to the consall, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said deane of gild in the said erand, to be allowit to him in his comptis. 18th August, 1602.

23*d August*, 1602.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that the bark of this burgh, callit the Gift of God, quhairof Willeam Mesoun is maister, is presentlie lying in the raid of this burght, arryving thairto fra the port of Danskine, quhilk toune of Danskine is infectit with the plaig of pestilence, and thairfor seing the said schip is cum from ane suspect place, devysit and ordanit that the said schip salbe sufferit to cum in within the herbrie of this burgh, vpon the conditionis folowing, towit, that the said schip sall ly on the poyntlaw within the herbrie, forganis the ferriehous, and that nather skipper, merchand, mariner, nor boy, quhais names folowis, viz.: Willeam Measoun, skipper, Johne Drum, Charles Robertsoun, James Cristell, Patrick Steuart, Thomas Schand, James Coupar, and Gilbert Gray, merchandis, Peter Crukschank, Johne Duncane, James Russell, Andro Grub, Johne Philp, James Forbes, and Willeam Gray, marineris, sall cum furth of the said schip, ather to the south or north schoir, bot remane within the said schip and on the Insches, on cum a land, during the will and plesure of the counsall, and ay and quhill thay gett the counsallis licence to that effect, induring the quhilk space thay sall try thair haill irne, pick, tar, and vtheris guidis quhilkis thay hawe presentlie within the said schip, with fyir and watter, tacking out of the irne out of the barrellis, and fyring the same with hedder, and that thay sall try thair haill kistis, claythis, and vtheris guidis thairin be fyre and watter, as said is; and that the saidis merchandies, skipper, marineris, and boyes sall keip thair schip and Inches during the said space, and quhill thay and thair guidis be sufficientlie tryit as said is, sall nocht suffer thair wyffis, bairnis, freyndis, nor na vtheris, to hawe ony eatting, or drinking, or companie with thame, and that thay sall ressaue nather

23rd August, 1602. meatt nor drink during the tyme of thair tryell, bot in presence of ane of the baillies of the said burgh; and ordanit the saidis merchandis, skipper, and companie to find cautioun for keiping of the ordour aboue specifeit, vnder the pane of thrie thousand merkis, to be payit be the contraveinar to the deane of gild of this burght, besyd sic vther punischement as salbe injoynit to him be the magistratis; according to the quhilk ordinance, Robert Gray and Johne Gray, merchandis, burgessis of the said burght, becum actit, coniunctlie and seueralie, as cautioneris and souerteis for the said Willeam Measoun, skipper, and for the haill merchandis and cumpanie aboue specifeit, that thay, and euerie ane of thame, sall observe the ordour above prescryvit, and incace ony of thame failze to pay the said sowme of thrie thousand merkis to the said deane of gild; and Willeam Robertsoun becum actit to relewe the saidis Robert and Johne Grayes of the said sowme of thrie thousand merkis, incace the said Charlie Robertsoun, his sone, contravene the ordour aboue specifeit; and Alex^r. Schand becum actit to relewe the saidis Robert and Johne Grayes of the foirsaid sowme of thrie thousand merkis, incace the said Thomas Schand, his sone, contravene this present ordinance; and Dauid Cargill becom actit to relewe the forsaidis cautionaris, incace Johne Drum contravene the premisses; and James Stewart, elder, becom actit to relewe the saidis cautionaris of the foirsaid paine of thrie thousand merkis, incace Patrik Stewart, his sone, contravene the ordour foirsaid; and Thomas Gray becom actit to relewe the saidis cautionaris, incace Gilbert Gray contravene the premisses.

24*th August*, 1602.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit in the tolbuyth, for the maist pairt, being warnit thairto be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis and streittis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid fayth, it wes exponit to thame be Alex^r. Cullen, prouest, that all and sindrie his Maiesties lieges betuixt saxtie and sextene, als weill to burght as to land, within the boundis of the schirrefdomes of Aberdene, Banff, Elgine, Forres, Narne, Inuernes, Cromartie, Caithnes, and Orkney, war vnder chargis to meit his Majestie, or his hienes Lieutenant, at the burght of Inuernes, vpon the twentie day of September nixt to cum, and thairfra to pas fordvart with his Maiestie or his lieutenent to the ile of the Lewis, for reducing of the inhabitantis thairof to his Maiesties obedience, as the

copie of his Maiesties proclamatioun maid thairanent, quhilk was opinlie red in judgement, in audience of the haill towne, convenit as said is, at lenth beris; and als schew and exponit that in respect the inhabitantis of this burght ar subject and vnder the danger of the said proclamatioun, that therfor he had convenit the counsall, and had signifeit the same to thame, quha thocht it meit that ane commissioner sould be direct in all haist to his Maiestie, to deall with his hienes for all discharge to this burgh of thair passing forvard to the said raid, and to compone with his hienes and thesaurer to that effect, and thairfor enquyrit of the towne, convenit as said is, quhat cours thay thocht best to folow, for eschewing of the danger of the said proclamatioun, quha all in ane voce, but oppositioun or contradictioun, thocht it maist meit and expedient that ane commissioner suld be chosin be the consall, and direct towardis his Maiestie, to travell with his hienes for this burghtis discharge of the said proclamatioun, and that the said commissioner suld compone, giff neid beis, with his Maiestie and thesaurer, rather or the haill towne suld be subiect to obey the tenour of the said proclamatioun; and farder, the towne, convenit as said is, wer content to be stentit for payment of sic compositioun as the said commissionar sould compone, for ane discharge of the said raid, and for the expenssis of the said commissionar to be imployit thairintill, and that letteris be gevin be delyuerance of the lordis of secreit counsall aganis thame, for convening thame selffis to cheis stentaris to the effect forsaid, and the stentaris being chosin, to charge thame to stent the said compositioun, with the commissionaris expenssis, on the haill inhabitantis, and being stentit to charge the inhabitantis to mak payment thairof, ilk ane for his awin pairt, according to the stent roll to be sett downe theranent: quhairvpon the said Alex^r^ Cullen, prouest, askit act and instrumentis, ordaining the forsaid proclamatioun to be registrat in the townes buikis, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour folowis:—James, be the grace of God, King of Scottis, to our louittis, Robert Elder, [ ] messingeris, our schireffis in that pairt, coniunctlie and seuerallie, speciallie constitute, greting. Forsamekle as we being moued with the detestabill and barbarous behaviour of the inhabitantis of the Lewis, quha being woid of the fear and knawledge of God, and misknawing thair alledgeance and obedience to ws, ar occupeit in nothing ellis bot in bluid, murthour, reif, thift, and oppressioun, ewerie ane of thame exercising monstrous and beistlie cruellteis vpon vtheris, as hes

24th August 1602.

24th August, 1602.

not bene hard amangis Turkis nor infidellis, and with that thay ar plantit and possessit with the maist fertile and commodious pairt of our haill realme, quhilk being inritcheit with a incredible fertilitie of cornis, and plantie of fisches wald render maist inestimabill commoditeis to oure realme, gif the barbaritie of the wyld and sawaige inhabitantis thairoff wald suffer and permitt a paciable traid and traficque amangis thame, the dew consideratioun quhairof tuiching ws in honour and conscience, we, efter guid adwyse and deliberatioun, resoluit to reduce that yle to certane burrowis and gentilmen, quha vpon the regard of our honour and commoditie of our cuntrie, interprysit the conques of that yle, establisching of religioun and politie within the samen, and ruitting out the barbaritie and wickednes quhilk was sa commoun thairin: lyk as thay, be powar, and force hawing maid a perfyte conques of that ylle, and reducit the samyn to als gryt obedience as ony pairt of the mane and in cuntrie, sua that all kynd of traffict and handling be see wes wery frequent and paciable thair, it is of treuthe that in the meyntyme certane of the principallis of the said ile, confident and bandit with the principallis of the illis nixt adiacent, vnder the pretence and cullour of freindschip, conspyrit and devysit the vter exterminatioun and ruyne of the saidis gentilmen, wenturaris, and thair haill gentilmen and companie, and at last finding the commoditie of the tyme, quhar as the said gentilmen luikit for nathing les than ony sic hie tressoun, thay sett vpon thame with fyre and sword, murdreist and slew at thair plesour, and hes possest thame selffis with the said ile, intending be the force and concurrence of vtheris disorderit theves and lymaris of the iles, to detene the samyn aganis ws and oure authoritie, to the trubill of our estaitt, and drawing out of forder inconvenientis, gif thair [ ] and intentionis be not tymouslie substantiouslie preventit and dissapoyntit, and thairfor we, with advyse of the lordis of our secreit counsall, hes resoluit and concludit be power and force to reduce the said ile againe to our obedience, and to repress the insolencies of the lymmeris quha wer the authoris of the disturbing of the samyn; for quhilk purpoiss, necessar it is that we or our lieutenant to be directit be ws to the said ile, be weill and substantiouslie acompaneit with a force of our guid and lowing subjectis: oure will is heirfoir, and we charge yow straitlie, and commandis, that incontinent thir oure letteris sene, ye pas, and in our name and authoritie, command and charge all and sindrie our lieges betuixt sextie and sextene yeris,

and vtheris fensabill personis, als weill to burgh as to land, within regalite, as roalitie, within the boundis of our schirefdomes of Aberdene, Banff, Elgin, Forres, Narne, Inuernes, Cromartie, Cathnes, and Orknay, be oppin proclamatioun at the marcat croces of the heid burrowis within the same schirefdomes, that they and ilk ane of thame, weill bodin in fear of weir, in thair maist substantious and weirlyk maner, and with fourtie dayes wittuallis and prowisioun, efter cuming to the Lewes, addres thame selffis to meitt ws or oure Leuetenant, at the dayis and places respectiue efter following, that is to say, the saidis inhabitantis to burght or land, within our schirefdomes of Aberdene, Elgin, Banff, Forres, Narne, Cromartie, and Inuernes, except Caithnes, Sutherland, and Stranauer, to meitt at our burgh of Inuernes vpoun the twentie day of September nixt to cum, and thairfra to pas fordward with ws or our said Lieutenent, as they sall be directit and commandit; the saidis inhabitantis of Orknay and Zetland to conveine and meitt ws or our said Lieutenent at the Lewes, vpon the tent day of October nixt to cum; and that the inhabitantis of Strathnawir, Caithnes, and Suthirland, be in redines to conveine and meitt ws or our Lieutenant at sic dayes and places as they sall be aduerteissit, be our proclamatioun or vtherwayis, that all follow the directioun of ws or our said Lieutenent, vnder the paine of tinsall of lyff, land, and guid, as ye will answer to ws thairwpoun; the quhilk to do, we committ to yow, coniunctlie and seuerallie, our full power, be thir oure letteris, delyuering thame be yow dewlie execut and indorsat againe to the berar: Gevin vnder our signet at Edinburgh, the nyntene day of July, and of our regne, the xxxv. yeir, 1602, *per actum secreti consilii.* 24th August, 1602.

25th August, 1602.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and consall, electit, nominat, and chesit Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of the said burgh, commissionar for this burght, to pas to his Maiestie for purchesing of ane discharge to this burght of thair passing fordvard to the raid of the Lewes, with power to the said Mr. Thomas to compone with his Maiestie and with his hienes thesaurer, for this burghtis discharge fra the said raid, and quhatsumeuer the said Mr. Thomas does thairanent, the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall obleist thame to abyd thairat, and to relewe him of the samyn, and ordanis ane commissioun to be maid to the said Mr. Thomas to deall in the erand forsaid vnder the townis privie

25th August, 1602. seall, and ordanis the sowme of ane hundreth merkis to be gevin to the said Mr. Thomas, for macking of his expenssis in the said commissioun, quhilk thay ordane to be vpliftit vpon proffitt be the thesaurer of the said burght, becaus he hes nocht present syluer of the townis in his handis, and the samen sowme, with the profitt thairof, to be allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis.

7th September, 1602.

The said day, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall, compeirit Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of the said burght, commissionar chosin vpon the xxv. day of August last bypast, to pas to his Maiestie for getting ane discharge to the inhabitantis of this burght, of thair passing fordvard to the raid of the Lewes, and dischargit him to the counsall of his said commissioun, be exponing to thame of his proceedingis thairin, and be productioun of ane licence, subscryvit be his Maiestie, discharging the prouest, baillies, counsall, and communitie of this burght, of thair passing forward to the said raid, and of all cryme, skayth, or inconvenient that thay or ony of thame may incur for abyding thairfra, as the said licence, of the daitt at Hammiltoun, the last day of August immediatlie bygane, proportis ; quhilk being red and considderit be the consall, thay find that the said Mr. Thomas hes vsit a gryt diligence in the erand foirsaid gevin to him in commissioun, and that he hes faithfullie and honestlie dischargit himselff theroff, and that he hes benefitit this burght be his travellis in the same, and thairfor dischargit the said Mr. Thomas *simpliciter* of the said commissioun, quhairvpon he askit instrument.

20*th October*, 1602.

The said day, the bailleis and counsall of the said burgh, being convenit in the counsalhous, anent the supplicatioun gevin in to thame in name of Johne Lyndsay, Gilbert Gordone, Alexander Lorne, Dauid Schand, Patrik Corser, merchandis, and Andro Rait, mariner, all burgessis of this burght, presentlie within the blokhous, lykas thay hawe bene within the same be the space of [ ] dayes bygane, thairin abyding tryell gif thay wer clein or foull of the plaig of pestilence, quhairof thay wer suspect, inrespect of thair lait cumming from Danskine in the moneth of September last bypast, quhilk towne of Danskine is contagiouslie infectit with the said

plaig of pestilence, craving that thay may be put to libertie, and sufferit to cum hame to thair awin houssis, and resort publictlie to kirk and mercat, for doing of thair lesum effaris, inrespect of thair tryell alreddie gevin, both of thair bodyes and guidis, conforme to the ordinance of counsall sett doun thairanent, and that thay ar frie and clene, God be praisit, of the said plaig; quhairanent the baillies and counsall advysing, fand that thay had alreddie biddin ane sufficient tryell, and thairfor votit and concludit that the saidis merchandis, and the said Andro Rait, and als Alex^r^. Leslie and Andro Ingrame, quho wer siclyk present in the said blokhous, and detenit in the same, be ressone thay had enterit thairin, but licence of the magistrattis, to be putt all to libertie, and takin out of the said blokhous on Setterday next, the twentie-thrie of this instant, and to be sufferit to repair to thair awin houssis, and to do thair effaris, as men fund to be clene and frie of all suspitioun of the said plaig. Persones of counsall present, Paull Mengzes, Johne Forbes, Alex^r^. Jaffray, bailleis, Alex^r^. Cullen, Dauid Andersoun, Dauid Cargill, Patrik Forbes, Dauid Fergussoun, Alex^r^. Crukschank, Alex^r^. Kempt, Alex^r^. Burnnett, and Thomas Goiff, tailzeour. 20th October, 1602.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, the haill assise, be the mouth of Dauid Cargill, chancellar, all in ane voce, but contradictioun, convictit Richard Williamsoun, cultellar, as ane vnlawfull nichtbour to duell within this burgh, in that it was sufficientlie verefeit and proven befoir thame, and be the said Richardis awin confessioun, publictlie maid in judgement, that he had oft and dyvers tymes woundit, hurt, and bled sindrie nichtbouris of this burght, and persewit thame of thair lyvis, tovit, Alex^r^. Rob, Patrik Barbour, Alex^r^. Forsyth, Andro Inglis, and Annabell Prat, the said Richardis awin wyff; wes ane adulterous persoun, subiect to ebrietie and drunkinnes, and a commoun trubler of his nichtbouris, inrespect quhairof, the baillies, be thair decreit, decernit the said Richard to be baneist this burght and fredome thairof, in all tyme cuming, as ane vnlawful persoun, quhilk baneisment wes instantlie intimat be oppin proclamatioun at the mercat croce.

8th December, 1602.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, auld and new counsallis, considder-

8th Dec., 1602.

ing that the yeirlie rent of the principall burrowis of this realme consistis cheiflie in the deuties of thair commoun mylnis, and that thair commoun gude is grytumlie advancit be the samyn, and vnderstanding that thair is no vther meane to put the commoun mylnis of this burght to proffit, bot onlie be bigging of ane wyndmylne, seing the four present watter mylnis, for laik of watter in the drouth of symmer, and frostis in wynter, ar not habill to grind the cornis that belangis to the nichtbouris of this burght, and ar astrictit to be grund at the saidis mylnis, quhilkis cornis for the maist pairt, throw want of watter at the saidis mylnis, ar careit to Gordonis Mylne, Kethackis Mylne, and to the mylnie of Ferryhill and Gilcomstoun, and grund thairat, be the quhilk the commoditie of the saidis four commoun mylnis of this burght ar grytumlie hinderit and preiudgit, thairfoir thocht it maist meit and expedient, votit, devysit, and ordanit, that thair salbe ane commound wynd mylne biggit on Hedonishill, at the Gallowgett Port of this burght, with all convenient diligence, on the commoun chargis and expenssis of the towne, to be debursit be the thesaurer and deane of gild, of the reddiest of the townis propertie and accidentis in thair handis, or quhilk sall happin thame to ressawe be vertew of thair offices, as thay salbe commandit and appoyntit be the counsall, and that this ordinance salbe intimat to the haill commvnitie, and thair consent and approbatioun had thairto.

30*th March*, 1603.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, having this day ressawit suir intelligence, be the declaratioun of James Chalmer, ane of his Maiestie's domestickis, that the Quene of Ingland depairtit this present lyff vpon the tuentie fourt day of Marche instant, and that immediatlie thairefter, vpon the samen day, his Maiestie, our Kyng and Souerane, wes proclamit and declairit Kyng of Ingland, as richteous air and successour thairof to hir Maiestie, boith be hir Maiestie's awin letter will and testament, as also be the nobilitie and counsall of Ingland; thairfoir, inrespect of thir glaid tydingis, hes thocht meit and expedient to signifie and devulgat the same to the haill people, that all the inhabitantis of this burght may prais God, for his gratious and mervellous providence in the wark forsaid, and for this effect ordanis the haill towne to be warnit, be sound of trumpet and drum, to assemble instantlie in thair paroche kirk, and thair gif thankis and prasis to God, for the forsaid glad

tydingis of his Maiestie's preferment, successioun, and electioun to the said kingdome of Ingland; and efter the ending of thankisgeving, and of the exhortatioun, ordanis bone-fyris to be sett on throcht all the streittis of the towne, the haill bellis to ring, the croce to be deckit and hung, the wyne and spycerie to be spent abundantlie thairat, a numer of glassis to be cassin, and the haill youthis of the towne to tak thair hagbuttis and accumpanie thair magistrattis throcht the haill rewis of the towne, pas the tyme in schuting thair muskattis and hagbutis til lait at nicht, the townis haill mvnitioun and artailzerie to be chargit and schott, and all godlie mirrines and pastyme vsit, that may expres the joy and glaidnes of the hartis of the people, and ordanis the deane of gild and thesaurer to furneis the wyne, spycerie, and glassis, to the erand foirsaid, in all decent and cumlie forme, and the expenssis to be debursit be thame thairon, the counsall ordanis the same to be allowit in thair comptis. 30th March, 1603.

1*st April*, 1603.

The said day, anent the missiue letter direct to the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, from the prouest, baillies, and counsall of Edinburght, ressauit this day, quhairof the tenour followis: Belovit brethrene, efter our hartlie commondation, becaus his Maiestie is werrie schortlie to pas to England to accept that kingdome vpon him, according to his richt, we hawe thocht gude to desyre yow befoir his depairting, to send to this burght your commissionaris, sufficientlie instructit, to consult vpon sic thingis as may concerne the weill of our estate, and that ye vse expeditioun with all diligence, in aventures his Maiestie remoue befoir they cum; this we pray yow to tak heid to without ony stay, for it requiris haist, and wytt ws nocht sene ye ar aduerteist be ws, and sua we commit yow to God; from Edinburght this 29 of Marche, 1603, your brethrene at command, the prouest, baillies, and counsall of the burght of Edinburght, subscryvit be our commoun clerk at our command. *Sic subscribitur*, A. Guthrie. The inscriptioun on the bak, *To our belovit brethrene the prouest, baillies, and counsall of the burght of Aberdene, these be delyuerit.* The counsall having red and considderit the said missiue, thocht the desyre thairof werrie reasonable, and a mater so necessar that in all haist thair behovit ane commissioner to be send to the effect aboue mentioned, and thairfor electit, nominat, and chesit, Alexander Rutherfurd, lait prouest, commissionar for this burght, to pas in all con-

1st April, 1603.

venient diligence to Edinburgh, and thair, with the commissionaris thairof, and with the commissionaris of the remanent burrowis that salbe assembled, to convene and consult vpon sic thingis as concernis the estate of burrowis, to be proponit to his Maiestie befoir his Maiesties depairting to England, and ordanis ane commissioun to be maid to him, vnder this burghtis privie seall, and ane hundreth pundis to be gevin to him to mak his chargis and expenssis, to be takin vp be the thesaurer and deane of gild vpon proffitt, becaus it is vnderstand to the counsall that thay hawe not frie syluer, with the soume of fyftie-thrie pundis 6s. 8d. debursit be thame on wyne and spycerie, and the bankit, maid vpon the penult day of Marche last, for the glaid newis that day brocht to this burght, that his Maiestie wes proclamit and declairit King of England: quhairanent thir presentis sall be ane sufficient warrand to the said thesaurer and deane of gild, and ordainis that the said commissioner be directit this day be the said thesaurer and deane of gild, furneist with the said sowme be thame, becaus the erand is baith weychtie and instant.

20*th April*, 1603.

The said day, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall, comperit Maister Dauid Wedderburne, ane of the tua maisteris of the grammer schooll of this burght, and exponit and declarit that he being vrgit and burdenit be the lait provinciall assemblie of the ministrie hauldin in this burght, to accept vpon him the functioun of ane minister of Goddis word, wes resoluit to enter in the said functioun, and obey God calling him thairto be the said assemblie, and to leawe and desert the said school, and thairfor cravit the consent and approbatioun of the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall, with thair testimonie of his dewtifull discharge of the said office, and of his former lyff and conversatioun: and the consall having censurit and tryit the said Mr. Dauidis diligence in the said office of maister of schole, sen the tyme of his admissioun thairto, and als his bypast lyff and conversatioun, fand that the said Mr. Dauid hes faithfullie and dewtifullie dischargit himselff in the said office during the haill tyme that he exercit the same, and that he hes bein of guide lyff and conversatioun, and thairfor gawe thair consent and approbatioun to the said Mr. Dauid to embrace the said halie functioun of the ministrie, and ordanis ane testimoniall to be gevin to him of his dewtifull discharge of the said office of maister of schole, and of his honest and gude beha-

viour in tymes past, and instantlie the said Mr. Dauid voluntarlie and frelie demittit and ouergawe to the counsall, in name of the towne, his said office of maister of the grammer schooll of this burght, to be provydit and suppliet be the counsall as they sall think maist expedient, quhilk dimissioun the counsell acceptit and ressauit, and in the meintyme ordanit Maister Thomas Reid, the vther of the maisteris of the said schooll, who wes coequall and coniunct thairin with the said Maister Dauid, to continew in exercing of the said office, be him selff allane, and his doctouris and vnder teacharis, quhill the counsall be farder advysit. 20th April, 1603.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall, hes thocht meit and expedient, devysit and ordanit, for the commoun proffitt and benefite of the towne, that the commoun locht of this burght sall in na tyme cuming be sett out in few, lang or schort tackis, nor yit appropriat in any sort to the vse of any particular persone or persones, bot that the samen sall ly and remain, in all tyme cumming, vnlaborit or manvrit, to grow grass, and to serve onlie for that vse, and to furneiss the towne and commoun mylnis with water, and that the grass of the said locht salbe straitlie and diligentlie keipit, and the samen to be yeirlie rowpit and putt to the grytest proffitt and availl, as a speciall pairt of the patrimonie and commoun gude of the towne, and to the effect the grass of the said locht may grow the better and in gryter abundance, and thairby may mak the gryter proffitt to the towne, and that the water may rin mair abundantlie, for serving the towne and commoun mylnis, hes thocht expedient, that the said locht salbe maid dry, be the sicht and advyse of Dauid Andersoun, elder, the townis maister of wark, and that the haill trinck of the water salbe drawn doun the south syd of the Lochfeild croft, and to rin at the west syd of the Gallowgett, and eist syd of the said loch, in the auld trinck, to be cassin deper and wyder, and that the water trinck on the south-vest syd of the said locht, nixt the Womanhill, salbe stoppit and condamnit, and that this wark of the drying of the said locht, and casting of the same, salbe done in all convenient diligence, be the labouris and travellis of the haill inhabitantis of this burght, quha salbe hauldin to send thair servandis to that effect, as thay happin to be warnit be the bell or be the officiaris, at the appoyntment and directioun of the said maister of wark, and this ordinance to be intimat to the towne at the heid court efter Pasche, and

20th April, 1603.

thair consent and approbatioun cravit to the samen. Persones of counsall present, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, Paull Mengzeis, Johne Forbes, Alexander Jaffray, bailleis, Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, Maister Thomas Nicolsoun, Robert Mengzeis, James Settoun, Dauid Andersoun, Dauid Cargill, Dauid Fergussoun, Alexander Crukschank, Alex^r^. Kempt, Alex^r^. Burnett, George Elphinstoun, saidler, Thomas Gowe, tailzeour.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, inrespect at the lait rowping of the commoun tackis of this burght, the grass of the locht wes then omittit vnrowpit, vpon gude respectis moving the magistrattis, thairfor appoyntis and ordanis the same to be rowpit to the grytest availl and proffitt, vpon the heid court day efter Pasche nixt to cum for this yeir, and thairefter to be rowpit vpon the ordinar day of rowping of the remanent townis tackis, and ordanis that it sall novyes be lesum to any inhabitant of this burght, nor vther quhatsvmeuir, to put in horssis, ky, or vther bestiall, to eatt the grass of the said locht, nor yit to ony man or woman, pure or riche, to schear the grass thairoff, in ony tyme cumming, bot onlie thay that sall hawe the same in rowping, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fourtie schillingis, to be payit be the persoun awner of the horse or beast that salbe apprehendit in the locht, and be the persone fund schearing or cutting the grass thairof, sa oft as thay happin to be convict thairin, to be payit to the dean of gild to the commoun vse of the towne, and this ordinance to be intimat be the hand bell throcht all the strettis of the towne, that nane pretend ignorance thairof.

22*nd April*, 1603.

The quhilk day, the haill inhabitantis, burgessis and craftismen of this burght, being lauchtfullie warnit to this day be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid faith, and being convenit for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodye, Thomas Mengzeis, prowest, declarit that he, with the baillies and sum of the counsall, had earnistlie travellit, for the ease of the nichtbouris of this burght, with James Balfour, fear of Pettullo, brother and factour to Sir Michaell Balfour of Burlie, knycht, quho had letteris and chargis of horning, to charge the haill nichtbouris of this burght worth fyve hundreth pundis, to ressawe corslettis, pickis, muskattis, and vther armour

specifeit within the saidis letteris within ten dayes, vnder the paine of horning, and that be thair eirnist travellis he wes content to accept payment for fourtie-fyue compleit stand of armour, appoyntit for the inhabitantis of the burrowis, sua being the said James had securitie for payment thairof within ane schort space, and requirit of thame giff thai wald be content to accept the said numer, and pay for the samen, for eschewing of the said horning, or gif thay wald abyd the perrell of the saidis chargis, ilk man for him selff, quha in ane voce assentit and agreit to tak the said numer of fourtie-fyue compleit stand of armis, and that be acquiring of the said ease to thame, the prouest and baillies had done gude diligence as magistrattis for the weill of the nichtbouris of this burght; and becaus thay wer not presentlie resoluit anent the forme of the distributioun of the said armour, and payment macking for the samen, desyrit Tuysday nixt the xxvi. of this instant to be resoluit thairwith, and that day ilk nichtbour, burges, and craftisman to be convenit within the tolbuyth, ilk persone thair to giff his awin aith, vpon his valour, according to the ordour of the sute roll; certefeing sic as convenis nocht that day, without ane lauchfull excuse, or absence furth of the cuntrie, to vnderly the paine of horning, conforme to the saidis chargis, and to be chargit for himselff, at the instance of the said Sir Michaell, and to be hauldin to obey the charge of the saidis letteris, and to tak armour conforme thairto, being fund to be worth fyue hundreth pundis, and the haill towne to be warnit be the handbell to the said day. 22nd April, 1603.

26*th April*, 1603.

The said day, the haill towne being lauchtfullie warnit to this day, be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodye, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, desyrit thame to resolue and giff thair answer anent the forme of the distributioun of the fourtie-fyue stand of armour agreit and condescendit be thame, vpon the twentie-twa of this instant, to be takin fra James Balfour, prior of Charterhous, brother and factour to Sir Michaell Balfour of Burlie, knycht, for obtempering to the chargis of horning execut aganis the inhabitantis of this burght, for resaving of the samen, at the instance of the said Sir Michaell, and the towne, convenit as said is, agreit and consentit that the said fourtie-fyue stand of armour sall be

26th April, 1603. distributit amangis the nichtbouris, burgessis, craftismen, and inhabitantis of this burght, as sall be fund habill in land and gudis, of the sowme of fyue hundreth pundis frie, according to the chargis, and that the distributioun thairof sall be maid be the persones folowing, nominat and chosin with vniforme consent to be stentaris and distributaris thairof, to vit, Dauid Cargill, Alex^r^. Cruikschank, elder, Alex^r^. Kempt, Henrie Forbes, Willeame Dwn, James Dauidsoun, Thomas Dowglas, merchandis, Gilbert Blak, cowpar, Dauid Watsoun, tailzeour, and James Castell, wobster, quha wer sworne judiciallie to distribute and devyd the saidis fortie-fyue stand of armour amangis the nichtbouris of this burght, of the habilitie forsaid, be thair estimatioun, judgement, and gude discretioun, and to giff out thair stent roll and distributioun thairanent with all convenient diligence; and the towne thocht it maist expedient that the saidis fourtie-fyue stand of armour sall be all corslettis, heid peces, wambrassis, and pickis, and navayes muskattis, in respect the towne is alreddie sufficientlie furneist and servit with the samen.

30*th July*, 1603.

The said day, the baillies and counsall, convenit and assembled this day, tymous in the murning, hauing ressauit ane missive direct from the Lordis of his Maiestie's preuie counsall, resident at Edinburgh, the twentie-fyft of this instant July, maid anent the apprehensioun of certaine fugitiue tratouris, interprysouris to hawe taikin his Maiestie's lyff, quhais names ar thir, Sir Griffin Markham, Williame Watsoun, Williame Clerk, preistis, past to the mercat croce of the said burght, with Gilbert Guthrie, merchmont hereald, quhome, with sound of trumpett, thay causit publische the said act, he being clothit with his cott of armes, with all solempnitie requisit, in the hearing of all the people, that day being the mercat day, and efter the publisching and proclamatioun thairof, be the sound of the drum, and oppin proclamatioun, passand throw the haill streittis, prohibit that nane sould tak vpoun hand to transport or imbark in schip, crair, boitt, or vther vaschell, any passenger quhatsumeur, to ony forane cuntrie, without licence haid and obtenit of the saidis Lordis of preuie counsall, and aduerteissing of the magistrattis of this burght, vnder the paine contenit in the said act and proclamatioun; and that, for the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsallis forder diligence and cair in obtempering to the command of the said act and proclamatioun, ordanit that the baillies sall

uritt to sic as hes commandement at the sie portis following, within the shirefdome of Aberdene, fra the quhilk sie portis passingeris may be transportit in schippis, boittis, or crairis to forane cuntreis, that thay suffer nane to be transportit thairfra, as thay will answer to his Maiestie, and eschew the perrell and danger contenit in the said act and proclamatioun, speciallie to the portis of Newburgh, Peterheid, Fathlie or Fraserburgh, and that thay send to thame the names fugitiue specifeit in the said act and proclamatioun, with thair descriptionis, as the same is sett down; according to the quhilk ordinance the baillies instantlie send and directit thair missives to the laird of Phylorth, and the laird of Tippertie, baillie of the Newburght. 30th July, 1603.

6th September, 1603.

The said day, Thomas Mengzeis of Durne, prouest, exponit and declarit to the towne, convenit this day, that our Souerane Lord the Kingis Maiestie had directit a werrie favourable missive to the provest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, signifeing his Maiestie's great affection towardis this his hienes burght, quhilk letter the prouest causit be publictlie red in audience of the towne, convenit as said is, and ordanit the same to be registrat in the townis buikis, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour followis: To oure richt trustie and weilbeloved the prouest, baillies, and counsall of our burght of Abirdene. James R. Trusty freindis, we greit yow hartlie weill. We hawe vnderstand of your grite affectioun to behave your selffis as obedient subiectis, your joy of our coronatioun, and discoverie of the vnnatural practizes excogitat aganis ws, for the quhilk we can not bot rander yow maist hartlie thankis, and as we did ever repute the estate of burrowis ane speciall power of our estate, and you as ane of the best sort of thame, werrie willing to the advancement of all our effaris, we mon now (quhill as we ar absent in persoun, albeit in spirit and affectioun present with yow, wisching all the gude meanis vnto you, might rayse your hoipis and amend your fortunes) recommend vnto you the cair of the commoun wealth quhairof you ar memberis, and your awin particular estate, that the inconvenientis you may sustene be our absence may be repairit, be your industrie and greater diligence in seking and folowing furth all lauchfull treddis, that be the example of other weill governit commoun welthis, may help or inriche you, and quhat help or furtherance ye will crawe fra this estate, it sall not be inlacking; and be-

6th Sept., 1603.

caus obedience to justice is ane of the best meanis to breid quyetnes, we recommend vnto you that honorable cair ye aucht to have of all thame quhome we hawe establisched in any power, sie thair directionis put in executioun as our will, put vp your suittis and petitionis vnto thame, quhom we hawe directed cairfullie to luke vpon all thingis, may procure peace, wealth, and gude ordour, and may keip all sort of persones fra wrong or oppressioun; thus not doubting of your goode dispositioun toward our service, we bid you fairweill. From our honnour of Hamptoun this viii. day of August, 1603.

7th September, 1603.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun gevin in be Maister Dauid Wedderburne, ane of the tua maisteris of the Grammer Schoole of this burght, bearing that vpon the tuentie day of Aprill last bypast, he had voluntarlie and frielie dimittit to the counsall, in name of the towne, his said office, to be prouydit and supplied be the counsall as thay thocht expedient, being then purposed to hawe enterit in the functioun of ane minister of Goddis word, quhilk dimissioun of his the counsall then acceptit, and now being otherwayes resoluit not to leawe his said office to be ane of the maisteris of the said schoole, bot being willing to continew in the said office with Mr. Thomas Reid, the vther maister of the said grammer schooll, his college, cravit thairfor to be reponit in his said place, lyk as he wes befoir hes said dimissioun, promesing to discharge him selff deulie thairin with the said Mr. Thomas; quhilk desire the counsall thocht resonable, and notwithstanding of his forsaid dimissioun, ressauit and admittit of new agane the said Mr. Dauid, to be co-equall and coniunct maister of the said Grammer Schooll with the said Mr. Thomas Reid, for instructing of the youth in the airt of grammer, gude letteris, and maneris, as becummis him of his office, during the will of the counsall, and vpon his gude service and diligence to be takin thairin allanerlie, observand and kepand the iniunctionis gevin and to be gevin to him and his said college, and tackand na gryter salarie nor is sett doun and ordanit to be takin be thame in the act of thair admissioun to the said office, of the date at Abirdene, the sext day of Februar, the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and tua yeiris.

11th October, 1603.

The said day, the new and auld counsallis, with the deaconis of craftis,

being assemblit in the counsalhous, vpon credible informatioun that the plaig of pestilence was spred, and liklie furder to spred (gif God of his infinit mercie stay not the same), in dyvers places of the south pairtis of this realme, to vit, Dunbar, North Bervick, Prestounpannis, and Edinburght, considdering heirwith, be reasoun of the imminent danger that may redound to this burght, gif the lawfull and ordinarie meanis be neglectit to keip the same and inhabitantis thairof, sa far as lyis in man, fra the same, and speciallie fra the incumming of schippis, crearis, and boittis fra the south pairtis, quhairin grytest perrell may be, and that the inhabitantis of this burgh ar nocht so obedient to the keping of the lawis and ordinances sett doun, and to be sett doun, be the magistrattis for gude reull to be obseruit be thame anent the keping of this burgh and induellaris thairof fra the samen, pairtlie becaus it hes pleasit the gudnes of God of his infinit mercie to with hauld the said plaig fra this burght thir fyftie-fyue yeris bygane, with the mair visiting many vther townis of this realme, baith be south and be north the samen thairwith, and spairing this burgh and inhabitantis thairof, quhilk bredis in thame ane sluggische cairlesnes and littill fear to obey the ordinances sett doun be thair magistrattis thairanent, in quhois handis thay knaw thair is no power of lyff nor death, quhilk is and wil be the occasioun of thair disobeying of the saidis statutes : thairfor to the effect the same may be observit, and the contravenaris and brackeris thairof baneschit, thocht meit and expedient that thair suld be ane commissioun purcheist of his Maiesties privie counsall, resident at Edinburght, to the prouest and baillies of this burght, to punische all persones induellaris in the same, and vtheris persones quhatsumeuer, quhither thay be strangearis or vtheris, brackaris of the statutes and ordinances maid or to be maid be the saidis magistrattis, for preserving of this burght fra the said plaig of pestilence, and keping of gude ordour thairanent, according to the qualitie of the fault, ather be death or demembering, or vthervayes be imprisonment and exacting of pecuniall panis, as is or sall be sett doun be the saidis magistrattis at thair awin arbitriment, and that the expenssis to be maid thairon sall be debursit be the deane of gild, quhilk sall be allowit to him in his comptis ; and in the meintyme ordanis that thair be a daylie watche at the herbrie mouth of this burght, of tua honest nichtbouris, to remaine thairat, fra sex houris in the morning to sex houris at evin, quho sall suffer nane to land furth of schippis, boittis, nor crairis, quhill they first

11th Oct., 1603.

11th Oct., 1603.

aduerteis the prouest and baillies, and obtene thair licence thairto, and the said watche to be sett and begin the morne, and ilk persone as he beis warnit thairto, to keip the same in proper persone and be na servand, and sic as sall be warnit thairto and absentis thameselffis thairfra, or yit sendis ony vther in his place, to incur the vnlaw of fourtie schillingis, *toties quoties*, to be payit to the dean of gild, deferring alwayes to appoynt ony watches for keping of the brig or portis of this burght, vnto the tyme that Dundie and vther townis be south ws begin to watche thair townis.

12*th October*, 1603.

The said day, in presence of the prowest, baillies, and counsall, compeirit personallie Maister Thomas Reid, ane of the tua maisteris of the gramer schooll of this burgh, college in the said office with Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, the vther maister of the said gramer schooll, and being resoluit to leawe the said office, and to enter to be ane of the regentis of the college laitlie erectit in this burgh, cravit the prouest, baillies, and counsellis gudewill and favour to dimit the said office, and to enter to the vther functioun, quhilk being granted to the said Mr. Thomas, he instantlie, in the handis of Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, in name of the counsall, dimittit and overgawe his said office of the maister of the gramer schooll of this burgh, to the effect the same micht be provydit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, sufficientlie as thay thocht expedient, quhilk dimissioun the prouest, baillies, and counsall ressauit and acceptit in name of the towne, and hawing sufficient pruiff and tryell of the qualificatioun, literature, and gude conversatioun of the said Maister Dauid Wedderburne, to discharge him fullie of the said office, and of his gryt travellis and diligence takin thairin thir tua yeris bygane, sen his admissioun thairto with the said Mr. Thomas, thay thairfor instantlie ressauit and admittit the said Maister Dauid to be full maister of the gramer schooll of this burgh be him selff allane, without ony college or co-equall maister with him, and ordanis him to be answerit of the haill stipend payit be the towne to the saidis maisteris of schooll, viz., of the sowme of fourscoir pundis to be payit to him yeirlie be the thesaurer of this burgh for the tyme, at Witsonday and Martemes in wynter, be equall portionis, and to hawe the salarie and scholedge vsit and wount to be payit of befoir to vmquhill Mr. Thomas Cargill, last maister of the said

grammer schooll, to vit, of the townis bairnis sex schillingis aucht penneis in the quarter to the maister, and thrie schillingis four penneis to the doctour, extending in all quhilk the townis bairnis suld pay in the quarter, baith to maister and doctour, to the sowme of ten schillingis; and of the sones and bairnis of gentill men and vtheris to landwart, threttene schillingis four penneis quarterlie to the maister, and fyue schillingis to the doctour, and this his admissioun to the said office to indure during the said Maister Dauidis gude service thairin, and the will of the counsall allanerlie, and that he sall novayes desert the said office, nor tak him to ony vther calling or functioun, without the consent and gudewill of the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burgh had and obtenit thairto, and macking thame aduertist be the space of halff ane yeir, befoir or ewer he leawe the said office, or enter to any vther functioun, to the effect the consall may hawe sufficient tyme to prouyd a qualifeit maister to the said schooll; and that the said Maister Dauid, for his faithfull discharge of the dewtie in the said office, and his diligent travellis to be takin thairin, as also that he sall not desert the same quhill he aduerteis the consall as said is, and hawe thair gudewill and consent thairto, sall find cautioun vnder the pane of thrie hundreth merkis; quhilk admissioun to the said office of the maister of the gramer schooll of this burght the said Maister Dauid acceptit, with the conditioun and provisioun foirsaid, and instantlie fand Dauid Andersoun, elder, burges of this burght, cautionar for him for fulfilling of the samen, quho instantlie becom actit cautionar for the said Maister Dauid, to the effect aboue specifiet, vnder the panis aboue expremit, and the said Mr. Dauid acts him to relewe his said cautionar of his cautionarie aboue wretin, and of all that may folow thairon. 12th Oct., 1603.

26*th October*, 1603.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that the cair and burdine of ouerseing and ordour tacking with this burght and inhabitantis thairof, now in this dangerous tyme of plaig of pestilence, alreddie kendlit in the south pairtis of this realme, will be ouer gryt to be borne vp be the prouest and four baillies without help and concurrence of vtheris, to hawe authoritie with thame to sie the statutes and ordour to be sett doun thairanent put in executioun, and ressaue full obedience, conforme to the mynd and tenour thairof, thairfor thocht meit and

26th Oct., 1603.

expedient that thair sall be sex or sevin quarter maisteris adionit to the baillie of ilk quarter, to assist and concur with the baillie, and to hawe equall power and authoritie with him in ordour tacking with the brackeris of the statutes to be sett doun anent the said plaig, and putting of the samen statutis to executioun in all poyntis, during the haill tyme of the reging of the said plaig in this realme, and for that effect instantlie nominat and chesit Gilbert Cullen, George Nicolsoun, Johne Kyng, James Mowatt, Alex^{r}· Kempt, and Gilbert Blak, elder, quarter maisteris of Futtie quarter, with Thomas Forbes, baillie thairof; and for the Grene quarter, nominat and chesit Johne Forbes, Henrie Forbes, Alex^{r} Jaffray, Dauid Fergussoun, Dauid Adye, Charles Dwn, and Robert Kelo, and Alex^{r}· Blair, quartermasteris, with Dauid Mengzeis, baillie of the Grene quarter; and for the Cruikit quarter, Thomas Kyng, Robert Keyth, Thomas Johnstoun, elder, Alex^{r}· Burnett, elder, Patrick Jack, James Donaldsoun, and George Elphinstoun, chosin quartermaisteris thairof, and adionit to Willeam Lowsone, baillie; and for the Evin quarter, Williame Gray, Mr. Johne Mortimer, Patrik Forbes, Maister Willeam Moir, James Fergussoun, Johne Layng, Johne Gray, and Johne Merser, saidler, chosin quartermaisteris thairof, with Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, bailie of the said quarter, quhilkis persones comperand personallie in presence of the counsall, acceptit the said office of quartermaisteris in and vpon thame, and gawe thair aythis for faythfull administratioun thairin.

15th November, 1603.

The said day, in presence of honorabill men, Alex^{r}· Rutherfurd, prouest, Maister Dauid Rutherfurd, Willeam Lowsoun, and Thomas Forbes, thrie of the baillies of the burght of Abirden, comperit personallie ane nobill and potent lord, George Erll Merschall, Lord Keyth and Altrie, and becom actit voluntarlie cautionar and souertie for Alex^{r}· Keyth of Balmvir, Alexander Keyth in Glasco, Nathaniell Keyth, and remanent of the said Erle, his kin, freyndis, and servandis, that thay sall mak na trubile, molestatioun, nor provocatioun within the said burght, territorie nor fredome thairof, to Maister James, brother to Willeam Forbes of Corsinday, Thomas Fraser, bruther to Andro Fraser of Stanyvod, nor to nane of the surname of Forbes, thair kin, freyndis, servandis, nor dependaris, in tyme cuming be reasone of the occasioun of trubill this day fallin out betuixt thame, vnder all hiest paine that the laws of the cuntrie prescryvis for trubling

of the Kingis Maiestie's frie royall burgh, and vnder sic paine as his Maiestie or his hienes secreit counsall of Scotland sall enjoyne, incace the said burgh be trublit be thame, or ony quhome the said erle may stop or lat; and siclyk, in presence of the provest and baillies forsaidis, comperit Johne Lord Forbes, and becom actit as cautionar and souertie for the saidis Mr. James Forbes, Thomas Fraser, Mr. Thomas Johnestoun, thair kin, freyndis, assisteris, and pairtakeris, and als for the surname of Forbes, his haill freyndis, assistaris, dependaris, and seruandis, and all quhom the said Lord Forbes may stop or lat, that thay, nor nane of thame, sall mak ony trubill within the said burgh, be persewing of the saidis Alex^r. Keyth of Balmvir, or ony of the surname or freyndschip of Keyth, in tyme cuming, be occasioun of the said trubill this day fallin out betuixt the saidis parties, and that the said burght sall not be trublit be thame in tyme cuming, vnder the panis above specifeit, quhairvnto the prouest and baillies forsaid interponit thair authoritie, vpon the quhilkis Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, as commoun procuratour for the said burgh, askit act and instrumentis. 15th Nov., 1603.

20*th November*, 1603.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that about the termes of Witsonday and Martemes yeirlie, quhen as gryt numeris of his Maiestie's liegis of all rankis duelling to landvart, reparis and resortis to this burght for doing of thair lesum effaris, sum to ressaue in thair dettis, vtheris to vplift or giwe out siluer on proffitt, and mak thair securities, amangis quhome thair being sindrie querrellis and deidlie feidis standing vnreconcelit, and privat grudgis, thair fallis out frequentlie at the saidis termes dyvers tumultis, trublis, and disorderis, quhairthrow thay hawe draun to pairties, covocat gryt numeris on ather syd, and hes takin armis and perseuit vtheris within this burgh, and being chargit be the magistrattis of this burgh to desist and ceas from the saidis trublis, and to pas to thair ludgingis, they proudlie and contempnandlie hawe disobeyit the command of the magistrattis, being clannit men of gryt freynschip, and thair numeris being so gryt, quhairthrow the magistrattis and nichtbouris of this burgh, standing betuixt the saidis pairteis, for redding and stanching of the saidis tumultis, hes bene dyvers and sindrie tymis in gryt danger and perrell, and sum of thame hurt and woundit, not being of power to resist the force of baith the pairteis, for remeid heirof

20th Nov., 1603.

thocht guid and expedient that thair salbe ane bill and supplicatioun gevin in, in name of the prouest, baillies, counsall, and commonitie of this burght, to the lordis of his hienes secreit counsall resident in this realme, desyrand chargis to be direct in his Maiestie's name, to charge all and sindrie erlis, lordis, baronis, gentilmen, thair men, tenentis, servandis, dependaris, and all vtheris our souerane lordis liegis, of quhatsumever rank or degrie, resorting or repairing to the said burgh of Abirdene, at the saidis termes, or ony vther tyme of the yeir, that nane of thame presvme or tak vpon hand to mak ony trubill, or raise ony tumult within this his Maiestie's burght, draw wappynnis, persew or invaid vtheris within the same, or to convocat or draw pairteis thairin, in ony tyme cumming, for revenging of thair querrellis or particularis quhatsumever, or mak ony commotioun to the brak of his Maiestie's peice, or disturbing of this his Maiestie's burght at the saidis termes of Witsonday or Mertimes, or at ony other tyme of the yeir, vnder the paine of treasone, gif the same can be grantit, or sic vther panis as the lordis of his hienes privie consall sall prescryve; and to desyre the chargis to be granted for the caussis forsaidis, and be reasone thair is so many clannis lyand about this burght of so gryt forces, and that this burght is ane opin burght without wallis, and navayes of power to resist or command sa gryt forces as resortis thairvnto at the tymes forsaidis, and ordaines the deane of gild to mak the chargis and expenssis in purchesing and raising the letteris, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

2nd January, 1604.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and consall ordanis the sowme of ane hundreth merkis to be vpliftit vpon proffitt be the thesaurer and deane of gild, for furnesing of sextene men, inhabitantis of this burgh, with a commander, to pas with his Maiesties gaird to the hous of Drumbreck, for assisting thame in asseging of the said hous, according to the commissioun gevin to the said gaird for that effect be his Maiesties secreit counsall, and conforme to the chargis vsit and execute this day aganis the inhabitantis of this burght, for assisting of the said gaird in the executioun of the said commissioun, quhilk sowme of ane hundreth merkis, togidder with the proffitt thairof, sall be allowed to the said thesaurer and deane of gild in his comptis.

10th January, 1604.

10th Jan., 1604.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, with consent of the commonaltie, convenit this day in thair heid court, considdering the disordour and dissolute behaviour quhairin the scholaris of the grammer scholl of this burght, fallis into about the superstitious tyme of yuill, in tacking of the schooll, keping and haulding of the same aganis thair maister, with swordis, gvnnis, pistollis, and vtheris wappynnis, spuilzeing and tacking of puir folkis geir, sic as geisse, foullis, peittis, and vtheris vivaris, during the tyme of the haulding thairof, and repyning altogither to the correctioun and discipline of the maister, tending not onlie to the fostering of the superstitious keping of haly dayes, bot also breding in the scholeris hartis a contempt and misregaird of thair maister, and furnesing to thame occasioun of boldnes to rebell aganis his discipline, besyddis that the puir people that cummis into the towne for selling of vivaris ar spulzeit and reft thairof, and na satisfactioun maid to thame of the samen, to thair gryt hurt and skayth, and sklander of this burght and magistrattis thairof; for avoding of the quhilk disordour heirefter, statutes and ordanis that it sall not be lesum to the maister of the grammer schoole to ressaue nor admit ony bairnis duelling to landvart, nather yit ony townis bairnis, to the schooll in tyme cumming, quhill the parent of the bairne or sum freynd cum, in presence of ane of the baillies, and find cautioun actit in the townis buikis, that the said bairne sall navayes repyne to the ordour and discipline of the maister, and that he sall nawayes tak the schooll, nor be airt or pairt in tacking thairof, at yuill nor na vther terme of the yeir, vnder the paine of tuentie pundis to be incurrit be the cautionar of the scholar contraveining this present ordinance, sa oft as he beis convict for contraveining the samen, to be payit to the deane of gild, to be applyit vpon the commoun effaris of this burgh.

Eodem die.

The said day, it was statute and ordanit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, with consent of the commvnitie, convenit this day in thair heid court, that it sall not be lesum to any persone, induellar in this burgh, to sell ony wyne, aill, or beir, in tyme cumming, efter ten houris of the nicht, nather yit lesum to any inhabitant thairof, or to any vther persone quhatsumever resorting to the samen, to be fund nor sene vagand nor

10th Jan., 1604.

gangand on the streittis of this burgh efter the said hour, bot that all persones sall contene thameselffis in thair houssis and ludgingis, fra that hour furth, and that for eschewing of the vndecent and vngodlie vse of nichtwalking, carting, dycing, and drinking, ouer frequentlie vsit in this burgh in tymes bypast, quhilk hes bred gryt disordour and dissolutenes off lyff in sindrie inhabitantis ; and sic as sall be apprehendit and convict heirefter in contravening this ordinance in ony poynt, to incur the vnlaw of fyve pundis, *toties quoties*, and the maisteris of houssis to be answerabill for thair bairnis and servandis ; farder, becaus thair is presentlie a numer of idill men in this burgh bund to Flanderis to the wearis, quha committis sum disordouris vnder silence of nicht, heirfor it is thocht meit that thair sall be ane nichtlie watche of auchtene persones kepit within this burght, vnto the moneth of Marche nixt to cum, for stansching of the saidis disordouris, and intrapping of theas that sall be fund walking on the streittis efter the ordinar hour forsaid, and delating of thair names to the maggistrattis.

18*th January*, 1604.

The quhilk day, James Cheyne of Straloch, being accusit be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, in his Maiesties name, for trubling of his Maiesties frie regall burgh, in drawing of ane sword this day within the samyn, and thairwith persewing of Mr. Thomas Nicolsoun, commissar of Aberdene, and burges of the said burgh, the said Mr. Thomas being on horsbak, in sober and quiet maner, without ony armour, cuming fra the commissariat place of Auld Aberdene, administring there justice to his Maiesties lieges, according to his office, hawing na mynd of ewill, and striking at the said Mr. Thomas with the said suerd, aitling to hawe slayne him thairwith ; the said James Cheyne compering personallie, grantit the trubling of his Maiesties toun in maner foirsaid, and referrit and pat him in the will of the counsall thairanent, quhairfor the said James wes convict and put in amerciament of court, to forbeir and to mend as law will, and was ordanit to sett cautioun to pay to the deane of gild of the said burgh, sic vnlaw as the counsall thairof suld modefie the said James to pay for his trubling of the towne, and lykwayes to sett law souertie actit that the said James Cheyne, nane of his souldieris, servandis, or freindis, quhilkis he may stope or lat, suld trubill or molest ony burges, craftisman, or inhabitant of the said burgh, vtherwayes nor be ordour of

law and justice, vnder the paines contenit in the act of parliament; according to the quhilk ordinance of the saidis prouest and baillies, Dauid Lindsay, burges of the said burgh, becom actit cautionar for the said James Cheyne to pay to the said deane of gild sic vnlaw as the said consall sall modefie the said James to pay, for trubling of the toun; and lykewayes becom actit law souertie for the said James, that the burgessis, craftismen, and inhabitantis of the said burgh sall be harmles and skaithles of the said James, his souldiouris, serwandis, and freindis, quhome he may stope or lat, vtherwayes nor be ordour of law and justice, vnder the paines contenit in the act of parliament; of the quhilkis souirtie and cautionarie the said James actit him to relewe the said Dauid of his said cautionarie, and of all that may follow thairwpoun, quhairvpon the said Dauid Cargill and Dauid Lyndsay tuik act and instrument; and Mr. Richard Irving burges of the said burgh become actit souirtie for the said Mr. Thomas Nicolson, that the toun sall nocht be trublit be him nor nane that he may stope or lat, vnder the paine of [ ], and the said Mr. Thomas actit him to relewe his said cautionar. 18th Jan., 1604.

3rd February, 1604.

The said day, Alex^r^. Ross, merchand, becom cautioun for Capitane James Cheyne of Stralocht, that the said Capitane James, nor nane of his servandis and dependaris, nor na vtheris quhome he may stope or lat, sall trubill this burgh, or mak ony vnquietatioun or perturbatioun in the same, be persewing be way of deid of Mr. James Ord, serviture to the Erll Marschell, in tyme cumming, vnder the panis contenit in the actis of parliament; lykas the said Erll Merschall becum cautioun for the said Mr. James Ord, and remanent his servandis, that thay sall not persew the said Capitane James within this burgh, nor mak ony trubill within the same in tyme cumming, vnder the panis forsaidis, and the said Capitane James actit him to relewe his said cautionar.

8th May, 1604.

The quhilk day, the haill towne, baith frie and vnfrie, being lawfullie warnit to this day be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid faith, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodie of the towne, it wes exponit to thame be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, that the plaig of

8th May, 1604.

pestilence is laitlie enterit againe in the burght of Edinburgh and Leyth, and is spredden in dyvers pairtis thairabout, and liklie to hawe a farder cours and progres within the realme, gif God of his mercie put not to his helping hand, and that all lawfull and ordinarie means be vsed, quhilk, at Goddis gude plesure, may preserve sic townes and pairtis as ar yit clene, fra the said seiknes, quhairthrow the magistrattis of the burrowis besouth ar werrie cairful and diligent in tacking strait ordour thairanent, everie ane within thair awin boundis, and thairfor the said Alex^r^ Rutherfurd intimat to the towne, convenit as said is, the ordinances sett doun be the counsall and towne in the moneth of October last bypast concerning the said plaig, and causit reid the saidis ordinances publictlie in audience of the towne, quhilkis ordinance thay now agane ratefeit and approvit, promesing, ilk ane for thair awin pairt, to obey and fulfill the same in all poyntis, efter the forme and tenour thairof, vnder the panis thairin contenit, and for the present it wes thocht meit and expedient, till furder aduertisment suld com from the south, that thair salbe a daylie watche at the brig of Dee and herbrie mouth, that nane cumming from the south pairtis of this realm, ather be sey or land, be sufferit enter within this burgh, without thay schaw sufficient testimoniallis of thair cleinnes at the leist, quhill the magistrattis be aduertist and grant thame licence to enter; and forder, the quarter maisteris, quhilkis wer nominat and adionit of before to the baillies, vpon the tuentie-sext day of October last bypast, for ordour tacking with the toun during the tyme of plaig, wer all chargit to be in reddines for putting in executioun the statutis and ordour alreddie sett doun, and that salbe sett doun and concludit heirefter, concerning the preservatioun of the toune fra the said plaig, and to accept vpon thame the cair and burdine of so many famelies as salbe inionit to thame be the bailleis, quhilk the saidis quarter maisteris promesit to do, according to thair habilities and knawledge as God sall assist thame; siclyk intimatioun wes ordinit to be maid be the drum throw the haill streittis of the towne, that na inhabitant within the same quhatsumever, presome or tak vpon hand to pas to Leyth or Edinburgh, nor yit to ony pairt besouth the watter of Dundy, without speciall licence haid and obtenit of the prouest and baillies to that effect, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fourtie pundis, to be incurrit be the contraveinar, and payit be thame to the deane of gild, to be applyit vpon the commoun effaris of the said burgh.

Eodem die. 8th May 1604.

The said day, Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prouest, producit, in presence of the haill toune, convenit this day, ane commissioun gevin and grantit be the lordis of his Maiestie's secreit counsall, to the prouest and bailleis of this burgh, gevand to thame full power and commissioun to mak, prescryve, and publische actis and constitutionis for watching, warding, and keping of this towne during the tyme of the plaig of pestilence, and for tacking all vther ordour thairanent as at lenth is contenit in the said commissioun, quhilk wes publictlie red in audience of the haill towne, convenit this day, and intimat to thame that nane suld pretend ignorance thairof, and ordanit to be registrat in the townis buikis, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour followis: James R. *Apud Perth quarto die mensis Nouembris, anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo tertio.* The lordis of secreit counsall, vnderstanding that the infectioun of the plaig of pestilence hes spred in sindrie pairtis of the schirefdome of Edinburght, and is lyk to hawe a forder course and progres within this realme, gif God of his mercie put not to his helping hand, and that all ordinar and lawfull meanis be vseit, quhilkis at Goddis plesure may preserve sic townis and places as ar yit clene fra the said seiknes, and the saidis lordis being willing that the resort of all suspect and foull persones to quhatsumever pairtis, quhilkis ar yit void and clene of all suspition of the said seiknes, be eschewit, and that guid actis and constitutionis be maid and put in executioun for that effect, thairfor the saidis lordis hes gevin and granted, and be the tenour heirof, gevis and grantis full power and commissioun be thir presentis to the prouest and baillies of the burgh of Abirdene, to mak, prescryve, and publeish actis and constitutionis for watching, warding, and keping of the said towne clene, and incase of the infectioun within the same, for clenging of the same, and separatioun of the foull and suspectit persones from the clene; commanding the persones separat to keip thameselffis sindrie and apairt in the places and ludgis appoyntit for thame, and on navayes to transgres the same vnder the pane of deid, and all infectit persones of the pestilence that sal happin wilfullie to repair to the said burgh, knawing thameselffis to be infectit thairwith, to execute to the death, and all and quhatsumever persones, inhabitantis within the said burgh, resorting to ony suspect towne or place without the previtie and allowance of the saidis magistrattis, and all vtheris persones entering within the towne over the wallis, or vthervayis by the commoun portis, according to thair

8th May, 1604.

demerittis and qualitie of thair offence, to punische thame; with powar alsua to thame to put the actis of parliament maid aganis sturdy and idill begarris, for expelling and haulding of thame out of thair boundis, to dew executioun in all poyntis, conforme to the tenour thairof, and to execute the panis contenit in the said actis, aganis the wilfull transgressouris and contravenaris of the same; with powar alsua to the saidis prouest and baillies to taxt and stent the inhabitantis of the said burgh, for nurisching and intertening of the puir misterfull people, in cace, as God forbid, any of thame sall happin to be infectit with the said seiknes, and to poynd and distrengie for the sowmes taxt, or to put and hauld the persones taxt in ward quhill thay mak payment of the saidis sowmes; and for the better executioun of thir presentis, with power to the saidis magistrattis to fense and hauld courtis, and to creat officieris and memberis of court neidfull, and to caus summond, warne, and sweir assyissis als oft as neid beis to poynd and distrengie, and to the support and releiff of the puir to apply, and generallie all and sindrie vther thingis to do and vse quhilkis of law or practique of this realme ar knawin to pertene firme and stabill, &c.: charging heirby all our souerance lordis, liegis, and subjectis, that thay nor nane of thame do nor attempt ony thing tending to the hinder of the executioun of this commissioun, as thay and ilk ane of thame will answer vpon the contrarie at thair hechest charge and perrell. *Sic subscribitur*, Montroiss, *cancellarius*; Atholl, Ochiltrie, Elphinstoun, comptroller; P. Dunkeld Traquar, *clericus registre*.

4th June, 1604.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, to refound and pay to Willeame Gordoun the soume of ane hundreth merkis, quhilk wes borrowit fra him be the toune in the moneth of [ ] last bypast, for recking furth of certaine hagbutteris with his Maiesties gaird to asseige the hous of Drumbreck, and to pay to the said Willeame thairwith the soume of four pundis, for the proffitt of the said soume for the half-yeir past; and lykvayes ordanis the said Dauid to deburse and give to Johne Crawfurd, messinger, the soume of twentie pundis for passing south to Edinburgh in the townis adois, and for passing throw certane burrowis of the south, in vsing of chargis at the townis instance concerning the plaig, and siclyk ordanis

ane roise nobill to be send to James Prymrois, clerk of secreit consall, for raising of the saidis chargis, quhilkis sowmes sall be allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis. 4th June, 1604.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, prouest, exponit to the towne, convenit this day in the tolbuith, warnit thairvnto be the handbell, that the perrell and danger of the plaig of pestilence is incressand in Leyth and Edinburgh, and sindrie vther pairtis thairabout, as also in sum partis of Fyff and Angous, and that notwithstanding therof, the ordinance sett down of obefoir for preserving this burgh and inhabitantis thairof thairfra, as the ordinar meanis for keping the same, vnder God, wes novayes observit and kepit: thairfoir of new agane he intimat the saidis ordinances to the towne, causit reid the same publictlie in thair audience, certefeing sic as sall be fund culpabill in contravening thairof, or ony poynt of the same, sall be preceislie puneschit conforme thairto, and the panis thairin contenit exactit of the brackaris and contravenaris of this ordinance, without favour; and the towne, convenit as said is, promeist to observe the saidis ordinances, ilk ane for his awin pairt, and to big vp his bakyettis and bak dyckis, keip his watche be himselff in proper persone, at the pairtis appoynted to him, and not to ressaue any strangeris without licence, and all vtheris ordinances sett doun thairanent, vnder the panis thairin contenit.

16*th July*, 1604.

The quhilk day, the haill towne being convenit this day within the tolbuyth, for the maist pairt, warnit thairto be the hand bell, it wes exponit and declarit to thame be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, commissioner chosin for this burgh, for keping of his Maiestie's parliament, begun and hauldin at Perth vpon the third day of July instant, that thair wes no mater handlit nor treated in the said parliament, saiffing the chesing of commissionaris according to his Maiestie's letter and desire, to pas in England to meitt with the commissioneris thairof, vpon the twentie day of September nixt to cum, at sic place in England as sall happin his Maiestie to appoynt, for treating on the mater of the vnioun of the tua kingdomes, and that the said Alex^r^. Rutherfurd, as commissionar of this burgh, is nominat and chosin be the lordis of parliament, ane of the four

16th July, 1604.

commissionaris chosin for the haill burrowis of this realme, to pas in England to the effect forsaid; lykas, the said Alexander wes nominat alsua commissionar for the same effect, be his Maiestie's awin letter direct to the lordis of articles of the said parliament; and forder, that the haill burrowis of this realme sall mak the chargis and expenssis of the saidis four commissionaris, and of the thrie laweris nominat to pas with thame in England, tovit, Maister Johne Skene, clerk of register, Maister Johne Scharp, and Mr. Thomas Craig, aduocattis, and for defraying thair chargis, and the chargis of the said commissionaris, thair is appoynted the soume of sextene thousand merkis, to be vplifted of the haill burrowis of this realme, quharof this burghtis pairt will extend to the soume of threttene hundreth merkis, and becaus the tyme is schort appoynted for thair passing in England, and that the commissionar of this burght lyis distant so far north, and thairby man be the soner reddie to accumpanie the remanent thrie commissionaris and laweris forsaidis, in the said erand of so gryt weycht, desyrit the toune, convenit as said is, gif thay thocht it meit and expedient that the said soume of threttene hundreth merkis suld be stented vpon the inhabitantis of this burght, for this burghtis pairt of the said extent of sextene thousand merkis, for defraying of the saidis commissionaris expenssis, quha being convenit, as said is, all in ane voce but oppositioun or contradictioun, voluntarlie consentit and agreit that the said soume of threttene hundreth merkis salbe stentit and imposit on the inhabitantis of this burght, oblesand thame, ilk ane for thair awin pairtis, to pay the samen, conforme to the stent roll to be sett doun thairvpon, vnder the painis of poynding and horning; and to this effect instantlie electit, nominat, and chesit Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, Henrie Forbes, Alex^{r}. Burnett, elder, George Nicolsoun, Johne Layng, James Fergussoun, merchandis, Johne Merser, saidler, and Dauid Watsoun, tailzeour, stentaris and taxtaris, to stent the said soume of threttene hundreth merkis on the haill inhabitantis of this burgh, quha being personallie present, acceptit the stenting thairof in and vpon thame, and wer sworne to stent the same lelelie and trewlie vpon the nichtbouris of this burgh, ilk man according to thair habilitie, and according to the saidis taxtaris knawlege and vnderstanding, and to giue out ane stent roll thairvpoun, subscribit with thair handis; lykevayes the said Alex^{r}. Rutherfurd, prouest, causit, in audience of the haill towne, convenit as said is, reid his Maiestie's letter direct to the prouest, bailleis, and counsall of this burght, in signe

and taken of his hienes rememberance and gude will borne to the samen, quhilk letter wes ordanit to be registrat in the townis buikis, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tenour followis: To our trustie and weilbeloved, the provest, bailleis, and counsall of our burght of Aberdene. James R. Trusty and weilbeloved, we greit yow weill. Being informed by our comptrollar, of your guid affectioun and redines at all occasiones in our service, but speciallie of your convening with the rest of our estatis at our parliament, and willingnes toward the furtherance of our effaris to be treated thairin, we can not omit to render yow most hartlie thankis, and thairwith to will and desyr yow to continew in that your affectioun and readines in our service, both in convening at sic tymes as you salbe requirit, and in geving your best advyse in our effaires, assureing you of our rememberance and gudewill for the same, as your occasions sall present, and having directit our said comptrollar to impairt our mynd to you moir ample in these particularis in handis (whome you will firmelie credite thairanent) we bid you fairweill. From our court at Whithall this xxix. of Maii, 1604. 16th July. 1603.

Followis the tenour of the commissioun grantit to the commissionaris nominat to pas to England, to treat vpon the mater of the vnioun of the tua kingdomes of Scotland and England.

Forsamekle as it has pleasit his most sacred Maiestie, acknawledging the vnspeakabill favour quhairwith the divine providence of the most heich had blissed him, by the oft wisched but hardlie expected coniunctioun of twa sua ancient and lang discordant kingdomes, maist eirnistlie to desire ane estableschit continewance of the samyn, that as by lawfull successioun thay ar ane in the heid, swa in the bodie and everie member thairof they may be so inseparablie conionit, as all efter cumming ages suld fynd the sueitnes of the thryis happie peace, welth, and felicitie, quhilk, by the prefect accomplischement thairof, may continew to the worldes end; and his maist excellent Maiestie, althoucht absent in persoun fra this his maist ancient and natiwe kingdome, yit present be his princelie power, fatherlie cair, and prudent commandementis, daylie directit to his maist humble and obedient subiectis of this kingdome; having laid befoir thame the grite blessing that ane constant and freindlie coniunctioun with thair nichtbour cuntrie of England, now vnited by allegeance and loyall subjectioun in his most royall persoun, wauld bring to thame and thair posteritie, and

16th July, 1603.

thairwith out of his most loving and accustumat princelie regaird, to thair inestimable joy and comfort, witchaffing to assure thame of his sinceir dispositioun and cleir mening, novay by the forsaid vnioun to preiudge, change, or hurt the fundamentall lawis, ancient privileges, offices, and liberties of this kingdome, quhairby not onlie the princelie authoritie of his Maiestie's royall discent hath bene thir many ages manteanit, bot also his peoples securitie of thair landis and levingis preserved, quhairby his Maiestie's gratious intention in establesching of the forsaid vnioun, is onlie to alter and reforme sic indifferent or temporall statutis, particular custumes, or speciall ordinances, quhairby the bygane rememberance may be extinguisched, and the future grouth prevented of so many particular debaittis, and vnhappie accidentis, quhilkis micht heirefter disturb that constant lowe and perfytt amitie betuixt both nationis, so tenderlie wisched by his most excellent Maiestie, and sic stedfast and afauld groundis of vniforme societie surrogat in thair place, that as the present aige is ravisched with so fortunat a begynning, sua the posteritie may reiois in the fruitioun of sic ane effectuall vnioun of twa so famous and ancient kyngdomes, miraculouslie accomplisched in the blude and persone of so rair ane monarche, thairfor, and for the mair perfytt accomplisching of the wark forsaid, the estatis, spirituall and temporall, of thir present parliament, assemblit be the vertew of his Maiestie's commissioun, vnder the grytt seall of Scotland, declaris, statutes, and ordanis that the persones folowing, they are to say, Johne, Erll of Montrois, lord chancellar of Scotland; Francis, Erll of Erroll, heich constabill of Scotland; George, Erll Merschall, grytt merschall of Scotland; James, Erll of Glencairne; Alexandir, Erll of Lithgw; Johne, Archbischop of Glasgw; Dauid, Bischop of Ros; George, Bischop of Caithnes; Walter, Prior of Blantyir; Patrik, Lord Glammis; Alexander, Lord Elphingstoun; Alexander, Lord Fyvie; Robert, Lord Roxburght; James, Lord Abercorne; James, Lord Balmerinoch; Dauid, Lord Skvne; Sir James Skrymgeour of Dudop, knycht; Sir Johne Cokburne of Ormistoun, knycht; Sir Johne Home of Coldenknowis, knycht; Sir Dauid Carnegy of Kynnaird, knycht; Sir Robert Meluill, elder, of Murdocarney, knycht; Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Lymmo, knycht; Sir Johne Leirmonth of Balcomie, knycht; Sir Alex$^{r.}$ Straittoun of Lawrenstoun, knycht; Sir Johne Skene of Curriehill, knycht; Maister Johne Scharp of Houstoun, lawer; Mr. Thomas Craig, lawer; Henrie Nisbett, lait provest of Edin-

burght; Alexander Rutherfurd, provest of Abirdene; Maister Alex^r. Wedderburne, commoun clerk of Dundy; and George Bruce, burges of Culross, or any [ ] of thame, thair being alwayis of erlis, prelattis, baronis, and burgessis [ ], be vertew of thir present act, hawe full power, commissioun, libertie, and authoritie, to assemble and convene thame selfis efter the ending of this present sessioun of this parliament, and befoir the nixt sessioun thairof, at sic tyme and in sic place as it sall pleas his Maiestie to appoynt, with certaine selected commissionaris nominat and authorezed be the parliament of England, and according to the tenour of thair commissioun in that behalf, to deliberat, treatt, and consult vpon ane perfytt vnioun of the realmes of Scotland and England, and concerning sic vther materis, caussis, and thingis quhatsumever, tending to his Maiesties honour and contentment, and to the weill and tranquillitie of baith the kingdomes during his Maiestie's lyff, quhilk the everleving God lang continew, and his royall posteritie in blessed tranquillitie to the warldis end, as vpon mature deliberation in the grytest pairt of the saidis commissionaris, assemblit as is afoirsaid, with the commissionaris authorized be the parliament of England, sall in thair wisdomes think maist convenient and necessarie, and that the commissionaris of baith the saidis realmes, according to the tenour of thair commissionis in that behalff, sett doun thair proceedingis in thrie seuerall writtingis, euerie ane of thame to be subscryued and sealled by thame, to the end that ane of thame may be in all humilitie presentit to his most sacred Maiestie; the secund to be presented to the consideratioun of the nixt sessioun of the parliament for the realme of Scotland; and the third to be offered to the consideratioun of the nixt sessioun of parliament for the realme of England, that thairefter sic ordour may be tane thairin, as baith the saidis parliamentis sall think expedient, for his Maiesties satisfactioun and benefit of baith the saidis kingdomes. 16th July, 1604.

3rd October, 1604.

The quhilk day, the prouest, ballies, and counsall devysed and ordanit the soume of thrie hundreth aucht pundis, four schillingis, aucht penneis, presentlie in the handis of Alexander Kempt, of the impost silver collectit thir yeris bygane, to be imployed and bestowit vpon proffitt till Witsonday nixt, and no langer, and the proffitt thairof for the halff yeir foirsaid to be maid furthcumand at the said terme of Witsonday, with the stok to be

3rd Oct., 1604.

then imployed on the wark of the repairing of the herbrie, as the onlie vse for quhilk the same is destinat, and the forsaid soume to be gevin out to strengeable persones vpon gude securitie, be aduyse of the counsall, to be payed at the said terme of Witsonday nixt; and lykvayes ordanis the soume of aucht hundreth merkis, of voluntar contributioun collected this last yeir, to the support of Geneva, quhilk is presentlie lyand in the handis of Dauid Cargill, last deane of gild, to be lykvayes gevin out vpon proffitt to strengeable personis vpon guid securitie, to be maid be advyse of the consall, vntill the feast of [ ], in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and fyve yeris, and the proffitt of the said aucht hunreth merkis to be bestowit to help to pay the ministeris stipendis, and to vther godlie vses, as salbe thocht expedient be the consall, sua that the principall soume salbe furthcummand, to be bestowit to the vse quhairfor the same wes granted, or vthervayes, *ad pios vsus*, as the toun and counsall sall think expedient.

24*th October*, 1604

The said day, anent the greiffis gevin in to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, be a gryt number of the communitie of this burgh, complaining on Maister Dauid Wedderburne, maister of thair grammer schooll, for certane abuses and extortionis laitlie enterit and raisit in the said schooll, by all gude ordour or forme, namelie, for tacking of gryter salarie and scholedge, baith of landwart and townis bairnis, nor is prescryvit and sett doun to him in the act and ordinance of his admissioun to the said office, of the dait the tuelff day of October, the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and thrie yeiris, viz.: in tacking of tua merkis in the quarter of landwart bairnis, thairof tuentie schillingis to him selff and sex shilling aucht penneis to his doctour; and tacking threttene shillings four penneis of townis bairnis in the quarter, thairof ten schillingis to him selff and thrie shilling four penneis to his doctour; quhairas be the ordinance of his admissioun he is appointit to tak onlie of landwart bairnis, in the quarter auchtene shilling four penneis, thairof threttene schilling four penneis to him selff, and fyve schillingis to his doctour; and of townis bairnis ten schillingis in the quarter, thairof sex schillingis aucht penneis to him selff, and thrie schilling four penneis to his doctour. Item, for tacking fra ewerie bairne ilk Sonday tua penneis, to be gevin to the puir, it being no poynt of charitie to caus bairnis giwe siluer to the puir, thay hawing no siluer to giwe of thair awin, bot that for quhilk

thay mak sum wrang schift. Item, for causing ilk seige ilk day in the wynter seasone furneis tua candill, quhairof ane is gevin to the maister by all reasone or gude forme. Item, for tacking aucht penneis monethlie of ewerie bairne for bent siluer. Item, for tacking fra ewerie bairne at the begining of ilk buik tuelff penneis. Item, for causing bairnis pay siluer at Candilmes for thair Candilmes candill, aganis all forme and ordour, quhairas the auld forme wes to tak onlie candill and navayes siluer. Be the quhilkis abuses and novations diweris of the gentillmenis bairnis to landwart ar drawin hame and takin furth of the gramer scholl, and vtheris ar scarrit to cum thairvnto, quhairthrow the toun ar grytlie preiudgit be the want of bairnis buirdis, quhilk wes a gryt help to many of the toun, being now abstractit frome thame be occasioun forsaid, besyddis that the nichtbouris of the toun findis thameselffis grevit be the novationis exactit and laid on thair awin bairnis, as at gryter lenth was contenit in the saidis greiffis; quhairvpone the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall, haweing convenit befoir thame the said Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, and hawing accusit him particlarlie vpoun ewerie seuerall greiff aboue writtin gevin in aganis him, findis be the said maister Dauidis awin grant and confessioun, that he has transgressit the boundis of the forsaid act of admissioun, in takin a gryter salarie and scholedge, both of townis bairnis and landwart bairnis, nor is prescryvit and sett doun to him to be taikin be the said act, and thairby hes gevin just caus of greiff in that poynt to the nichtbouris; as also findis sum abuse and corruption in the remanent articles aboue writtin, proceiding rather vpoun ane auld vse and custume introducit in the said schooll, befoir the said Maister Dauidis entrie thairwith, then anywayis inuentit or devysit be him; for awoding of the quhilkis abuses and corruptioun heirefter, efter guid advysement and deliberatioun, the mater being reasonit and debaittit at lenthe, it wes statute and ordanit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, that the said Maister Dauid sall ressaue no forder salarie nor scholege of his scholeris in tyme cuming, bot sic as is contenit in the act of his admissioun, viz., of the townis bairnis ten schillingis in the quarter, thairof sex schillingis aucht penneis to himselff, and thrie schilling four penneis to his doctour; and of landwart bairnis, auchtene schilling four penneis in the quarter, thairof threttene shillingis four d. to himselff, and fyue schillingis to his doctour allanerlie, and na forder salarie nor scholedge to be taikin of thame, vnder the paineof the deprivatioun

24th Oct., 1604.

24th Oct., 1604.

of the said Maister Dauid fra his office, in cace he contravene. Item, the counsall dischargis in all tyme cuming the vlklie contributioun of tua penneis, takin of ilk bairne to be gevin to the puir, seing bairnes hes no siluer to give of thair awin, bot that quhilk thay man seik of vtheris. Item, that in tyme cuming, thair be not tua candill tane nichtlie of ilk class, as hes bein vsit heirtofoir, bot that ilk class find onlie ane candill in the nicht, and he that happinnis to be fabulatour, to bring his candill with him, and na vther extraordinar candill to be tane, excepte onlie the fabulatouris candill. Item, that anis ilk moneth during thir four monethis following in the symmer seasone allanerlie, viz. May, Junij, July, and August, the bairnis that gangis not to the bent thame selffis, sall pay ilk ane of thame aucht penneis to the maister for bying of bent. Item, that no bairne be causit pay ony thing at the begining of ony buik, ather to the maister or doctour, bot be thir presentis dischargis boith maister and doctour of taking any thing of thair scholeris at the begining and ending of ony buik, bot onlie thair ordinar quarter stipend aboue prescryvit, allanerlie. Item, at Candilmes the bairnis sall not be farder obleist bot to bring ilk ane of thame tua candillis induring thair awin plesour, not restraining alwayes the liberalitie of thair parantis, gif thay pleis to gif any ma; bot dischargis allanerlie all taking of syluer in tyme cuming fra ony of the bairnis for thair Candilmes candill, except fra him quha sall be king, to quhome it sall be lesum to gif quhat he pleissis, and tua of the counsall to be present in the schooll on Candilmes evin, to sie this ordour concerning the candill preceislie keipit, for eschewing emulatioun and contentioun amangis the bairnis: and thir articles to be written in gryt letteris on a brod, and to be affixit in the grammer schooll, that nather the maister nor the doctour nor ony of the scholeris pretend ignorance thairof; and for the better obseruing heirof, and for ordour taking with the doctrine and discipline in the said schooll in tyme cuming, the counsall nominattis and appointis Dauid Mengzeis, prowest, Alexander Rutherfurd, Alex^r. Cullen, lait prowestis, Mr. Thomas Nicolsoun, commissar, and Mr. Thomas Mengzeis, baillie, visitouris of the gramer schooll of this burgh, to visit the same quarterlie, and to censure and tak tryell bayth of doctrine and discipline, and to put ordour to quhatsumeuir abuses quhilkis sall be fund thairin, and the saidis wisitouris to tak the adwyse of the bischope, ministeris, and of the principall of the colledge of this burgh, tuiching the forme of doctrine and discipline.

5th December, 1604.

5th Dec., 1604.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall nominat and appointit Maister Thomas Mengzeis, baillie, to ryd to the Marques of Huntlie, to signifie to his Lo[rdship] the present estait of the brige of Done, and the gryt necesitie that the same hes to be repairit and beatit, and therfor to request his Lordschip to convene the barronis of this shirrefdome at the heid court efter yuill, for ordour taking quhow the said brig sall be helpit and repairit, and ordanis the deane of gild or thesaurer to mak the said Mr. Thomas expenssis in the erand forsaid, quhilk sall be allowit to thame in thair comptis.

8th December, 1604.

The said day, the haill toune being convenit this day in the tolbuyth for the maist pairt, being warnit thairvnto be the handbell, grantit and consentit, thocht meit and expedient, that the keping and watching of the portis of this burgh be dissoluit and dischargit fra this day furth, vntill new occasioun be offerit, except onlie that the port of the brig of Dee and watter mouth be kepit and watchit, quhilk watche at the brig and watter mouth is ordanit to stand and continew till the consall and the toune be forder advysit, and to be kepit be honest nichtbouris thame selffis in proper persone, and navayes be servandis, inrespect the plaig of pest is mekill quenschit, praysit be God, in Edinburgh, Leyth, and vther pairtis thairabout infectit thairwith, and that the burrowis besouth hes dischargit all keping and watching of thair townis, except onlie thair watteris and briggis, alvayes it is ordanit that na inhabitant of this burgh pas south to any suspect place, nor yit bring any gudis nor merchandice from any suspect pairt in the south, nor yit ressaue ony strangeris in thair houssis, without licence and dew advertisment maid to the magistrattis, vnder the panis contenit in the actis maid thairanent of befoir.

22nd March, 1605.

The quhilk day, the haill towne, boith frie and vnfrie, being lauchfullie warnit to this day be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quharvpon the berar maid fayth, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodie of the towne, it wes thocht meit and expedient be thame, inrespect the plaig of pestilence is brackin vp and spotten againe in Edinburgh and Leyth, and vther pairtis

22nd March, 1605.

therabout, that the herbrie mouth of this burgh salbe watchit and kepit daylie fra this day furth, be tua nichtbouris, sic as salbe warnit to that effect, quha salbe haldin to watche in proper persone, that na schip, crair, nor boit cumming fra ony suspect pairt be sufferit to enter within the samen with wairis or merchandice, except coll and lymb, quhilkis sall suffer tryell at the appoyntment of the magistrattis, becaus the grytest perrell that may ensew to this burgh is fearit to cum be sey with merchandice cuming fra suspect places; and forder, it is statute that na inhabitant of this burgh sall presome to pas south without licence hed and obtenit of the magistrattis, vnder the panis contenit in the former actis sett doun heiranent of befoir, and that na futt chopmen salbe sufferit to cum to the mercatt of this burght with thair chopman wairis, or sufferit to out the same to sell, ather on mercatt day or vther day, quhill the consall be farder advysit, be reasoun of the imminent perrell of the said seiknes, and appoyntis the forsaid watche to begin the morne.

1st May, 1605.

The quhilk day, the new and auld counsallis being convenit, considdering that the brig of Done is decaying and becum verye ruynous, quhilk being a wark so necessar and proffitabill for this burgh, findis it meit that the counsall and tovne haveing a speciall cair of the same, as thay that hes chefest interest, and quha will ressaue grytest hurt and prejudice gif the same fall and decay (as God forbid), lykas, for this effect the counsall hes causit craftismen visite and sicht the said brig, be quhais estimatioun the same will tak the soume of fyve thovsand merkis for beting and repairing thairof, theirfor seing the forsaid brig is a commoun wark concerning the haill cuntrie, findis it expedient that the nobillmen and baronis of this shirrefdome be travellit with be the ministeris of everie presbyterie, for granting a voluntary contribution for reparing and beting of the same, quhilk they ordane to be done in all convenient diligence, in respect of the necessitie of the wark, and that the same standis in sa gryt danger for laik of beting, and seing this burght hes cheifest interest, thinkis it expedient that the sume of fyve hundreth pundis be geven be this burght for helping to beit and repair the said wark, and that the same be vplifted be ane taxatioun, gif the tovne will consent and agrie thervnto, and ordanit the same to be proponit to the tovne on Friday

nixt, agane quhilk day they ordane the tovne to be warnit for getting thair consent and ansuer. 1st May, 1605.

Eodem die.

The said day, the auld and new counsallis findis it expedient, devysit, and ordanit, that the hous callit the kirk ludge at the north vest end of the kirkyard be betit and repairit sufficientlie be Dauid Andersoun, maister of kirkwark, in all convenient diligence, and that the same be devydit in thrie houssis, to the effect the same may serue for haulding of the sang schooll, and the twa Inglis schoollis, teichit be the twa reidaris, or for ony vther vse the consall sall think expedient, it being alvayes expreslie provydit, that albeit the consall at the present appointis the forsaid ludge for haulding of the saidis schoollis, yit the towne sall navayes be bund to find any schooll to any maister quhatsumever that teichis Inglische, induring the will and plesure of the counsall, seing the toune ar onlie obleist to find a grammer schooll and ane sang schooll, and navayes to find ony Inglische schoollis, sa that it sall be lesum to the consall to remove the saidis Inglis schoollis furth of the pairt forsaid quhen thay sall think expedient, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said maister of wark in repairing of the said kirk ludge, the counsall ordanis the same to be allowit to him in his comptis.

Eodem die.

The samen day, the prouest, baillies, and consall, decernis and ordanis Gilbert Alschenour to be wardit and incarcerit during the space of tuentie-four houris in the tolbuith of this burgh, on bread and watter, in respect he wes convict vpon the xxii. day of April last, for blude drawing of Alaster Anderson in the lug with ane stane, and for drawing ane knyff and persewing Robert Wischert, serviture to George Bruce, saidler, thairwith, as the act of his convictioun proportis, with certificatioun to the said Gilbert gif he be convict at ony tyme heirefter for trubling the towne, or ony nichtbour thairin, to be baneist for yeir and day, gif he be not habill in guidis to pay the townis vnlaw; and besydis this, thay ordane the said Gilbert opinlie in the tolbuith to sitt doun on his kneis and crawe the said Alaster and George Bruce, his maister, forgiwenes; and findis that the said Alaster Andersoun and Robert Patersoun hes incurrit no vnlaw, becaus it is tryit that thay wer bot reddaris.

13th May, 1605.

13*th May*, 1605.

The quhilk day, the haill towne, baith frie and vnfrie, being lawfullie warnit to this day be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the towne, quhairvpon the berar maid faith, and convening for the maist pairt within the tolbuith, representand the haill bodie of the towne, it was exponit to thame be Dauid Mengzeis, prowest, quhow that the Brig off Done is decaying and becum ruynous, and that the same will nocht faill in schort space allutterlie to decay, gif tymouslie it be nocht beittit and reparit, for quhilk effect he had convenit both the counsallis of this burght, and declairit to thame the present danger quhairin the said brig standis throw laik of beitment, and the gryt hurt and inconvenient quhilk this burgh will incur, in cace the said brig (as God forbid) fall to the ground, the same being the most speciall brig and passage quhairby the haill vivaris and fewall cummis to this toun, out of Buchan, Gareauch, and vtheris pairtis thairabout, and that the counsall considdering the gryt necessitie of the repairing of the said wark, had causit certane craftismen and otheris visit and sicht the same, to estimat quhat sowme wald beit and repair the samen, be quhais estimatioun and judgement the beit thairof wald tak the sowme of fyve thowsand merkis, quhilk brig being a commoun wark concerning the haill cuntrie, and requyring sa gryt a beitt, the counsall thocht meit and expedient that the nobillmen, baronis, and gentillmen of the shirrefdome of Abirdene, be travellit with be the ministeris of euerie presbiterie, for granting a voluntarie contributioun to the reparing and beting of the same, and that this burght, as having chefest interest, suld for thair pairt giwe the soume of fyue hundreth pundis for a help to the reparatioun thairof, to be payed be ane taxatioun to be imposit vpon the haill inhabitantis of this burght, both frie and vnfrie; lykas the ministrie of this diocie being laitlie convenit, had promeist to travell, everie minister with his awin parochinaris, for a voluntarie contributioun of thame to the help of the said brig, and thairfor inquyrit of the towne, convenit as said is, gif thay wald be content to be stentit for the said soume of fyue hundreth pundis, to the vse forsaid, of the reparatioun, beitting, and mending of the said brig of Done, quha, all in ane voce, but contradictioun, voluntarlie grantit and consentit to be taxat and stentit for the said sowme of fyve hundreth punds, to the vse forsaid, of the reparatioun, beitting, and mending of the said brig of Done; and for that effect instantlie nominat and chesit Dauid Cargill,

Alexander Kempt, Maister Willeame Moir, George Nicolsoun, James Fergussoun, merchandis, George Elphinstoun, saidler, and Gilbert Blak, coupar, taxtaris and stentaris, to stent the said sowme of fyue hundreth pundis vpon the haill inhabitantis of this burght, frie and vnfrie; and the saidis stentaris being personallie present, acceptit the stenting of the said sowme vpon the inhabitantis of this burght maid vpon thame, and gawe thair aithis to stent the same indifferentlie vpon all persones according to thair habilitie, but feid or favour according to thair knawledge. 13th May, 1605.

29th May, 1605.

The quhilk day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall thinkis meit and expedient that thair salbe a privie inqueist chosin throw the haill towne, quha sall tak tryell and inqueist of all vnlauchfull persones and nichtbouris in this burght, and delaitt sic persones to the magistrattis and consall as thay find guiltie or culpabill of sklanderous lyff or behaviour, that sic as beis fund worthie of baneisment may be exylit this burght, and vtheris nocht offending in so hie a degrie, may be admoneist and censurit at the arbitriment of the consall; and ordanis the haill toun to be convenit for this effect, that the forsaid inqueist may be chosin be publict consent, and the haill towne may be obleist in haulding hand to the executioun of sic decreit as sall folow vpoun the delatioun of the said inqueist, conforme to the lovabill custum observit within this burgh in all tymes bygane, and inrespect of the present necessitie of the purging of the toune of malefactouris, thir being at the present sa gryt a numer in the same, quhilkis can nocht vthervayes be censurit sa properlie as be ane privie inqueist of honest nichtbouris, to be chosin out of the four quarteris of the towne.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent our Souerane Lordis letteris, gevin be delyverance of the lordis of his Maiesties secreit counsall, publeist and execute at the mercatt croce of this burght, appoynting and affixing ane parliament to be hauldin at Edinburgh vpoun the sevint day of Junij nixt to cum, with continewatioun of dayis, as the saidis letteris proportis, quharof the tenour folowis: James, be the grace of God king of Grite Brittane, France, and Ireland, Defendar of the Faith, to our louittis, lyoun king of armis, and his bretherene heraldis, coniunctlie and seuerallie, speciallie constitute, greting.

29th May, 1605. Forsamekill as at the last sessioun of our parliament, hauldin at the burght of Perth in the moneth of July last, our estates then convenit, declarit our said parliament then to be current, and to be of new proclamit vpon twentie dayes warning, and now We, for certane grite and weychtie effaris tending to the commoun weill and benefite of this our realme, and for ane perfytt confirmatioun and approbatioun of the particular heidis and articlis past in the conference and treatie of the vnioun, hawe ordanit and ordanis our said parliament to be hauldin, God willing, at our burgh of Edinburgh, vpon the sevint day of Junij nixt to cum, with continewatioun of dayes: Our will is heirfoir, and we charge yow straitlie, and commandis that incontinent thir our letteris sene, ye pas, and in our name and authoritie mak publicatioun heirof be opin proclamatioun at all places neidfull, quhairthrow nane pretend ignorance of the same, and that ye command and charge all and sindrie Dukes, Marquessis, Erlis, Lordis, Prelattis, commissionaris for our baronis and burrowis, and all vtheris our estatis of this kingdome, having vote in our parliament, to compeir and be present thairat at the day forsaid, with certificatioun to thame that beis absent, that thay salbe vnlawit in the ordinar and accustumat panis, and the samen unlawis salbe vplifted of thame without favour; the quhilk to do we committ to yow, coniunctlie and seuerallie, our full power be thir our letteris, delyvering thame to you deulie execute and indorsat agane to the berar. Gevin vnder our signet at Edinburgh, the tuentie-aucht day of Marche, and of our regne of Grite Britane, France, and Ireland, the thrid, and threttie aucht yeiris, 1605, *per actum secreti consilii.* Conforme to the quhilk letteris, and for obedience to the charge thairof, the prouest, baillies, and counsall electit, nominat, and chusit Alexander Rutherfurd, lait prouest, commissionar for this burgh, for keping of the said parliament, vpon the said sevint day of Junij nixt to cum, with continewation of dayes, and ordanis ane commissioun to be maid to him for that effect, vnder the townis secreit seall, in dew forme.

21*st June*, 1605.

The said day, Issobell Bairnis, dochter to vmquhill Johne Bairnis, tailzeour, being tryit befoir the sessioun to be ane commoun harlott, and to hawe gevin iust occasioun of sklander of adultrie be hir misbehaviour with Harie Denings, the said Issobell to be baneist this burght as ane

vnlawfull persone to abyd in the same, and publict intimatioun to be maid heirof at the mercat croce. *Memorandum:* gif she be apprehendit fra this day furth to be brint on the cheik. 21st June, 1605.

28*th June*, 1605.

The said day, the haill toun, burgessis of gild, craftismen, and inhabitantis of this burght, being lauchfullie warnit to this day be the handbell passing throw the haill rewis of the toun, quhairvpon the berar maid faith, and being convenit for the maist pairt within the tolbuyth, representand the haill bodey of the toun, consentit and agreit, all in ane voce, but contradictioun or oppositioun, that the soume of aucht hundreth merkis vsuall money of the realme, of voluntar contributioun giwen be thame to the help and support of the towne of Geneva, quhilk sowme is presentlie in the handis and custodie of Dauid Cargill, last dean of gild of this burght, sall be bestowit, warit, and imployit vpoun the help and support of the repairing of the Brig of Done, quhilk is becum rvynouse and liklie to fall, and speciallie to by lyme and stane and vtheris materiallis to the said brig, as ane wark maist necessar, nocht onlie for this burght, bot also for his Maiesties haill lieges that resortis to and fra the samen, in Buchan, Gareaucht, and vther pairtis be north this burght, with wiueris and vtheris necessaris; and in cace the prouest, baillies, counsall, and magistrattis of the said burght be onywayes chairgit be letteris to delyuer the said sowme of aucht hundreth merkis to be giwen to the help and aid of the said towne of Geneva, in that cace the haill towne, baith frie and vnfrie, convenit as said is, becom actit and obleist voluntarlie of thair awin consentis, to warrand, frie, relewe, and keip skaithles the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, present and to cum, of the said sowme of aucht hundreth merkis of voluntar contributioun, collectit to the support of the said towne of Geneva; and to that effect consentit and agreit that taxtaris and stentaris be chosin, for stenting thairof vpoun the haill inhabitantis of this burght, baith frie and vnfrie, at quhat tyme the magistrattis beis chargit for payment of the samen be the authoritie of this realme, and to pay the said sowme, ilk ane for thair awne pairt, conforme to the taxt roll to be gewin furth thairvpoun, within thrie dayes nixt efter the giweing furth of the said stent roll; and war content that letteris suld be direct, at the instance of the prouest and baillies of this burght for the tyme,

28th June, 1605.

to chairge the haill inhabitantis, baith frie and vnfrie, to convene and chuise taxtaris and stentaris for stenting of the said sowme vpoun thame, and the stentaris being chosin, to chairge thame to accept the stenting in and vpoun thame, and to giwe furth ane stent roll thairvpoun, subscryvit with thair handis; quhilk being stentit, and the taxt roll being giwen furth, subscryvit be the stentaris, to chairge the haill inhabitantis, both frie and vnfrie, to mak payment of the said stent of aucht hundreth merkis, ilk ane for his awne pairt, according to the said stent roll, to the dean of gild of the said burght, or to sic as sall be appoyntit be the magistrattis, collectouris of the samen, within thrie dayes nixt efter the chairge, vnder the pane of horning; quhairvnto the towne band thame selffis in maner forsaid, to disburding thame of the taxatioun of fyue hundreth pundis, quhilk thay grantit and consentit to be giwen to the reparatioun of the said brig, vpoun the fourtene day of May last bypast, conforme to ane act maid thairvpoun that day, as the samen proportis; quhilk sowme of fywe hundreth pundis lyis yit vnstentit, and in place thairof thay hawe grantit that the forsaid contributioun of aucht hundreth merkis be imployit and warit to the forsaid vse of the reparing of the said brig, seing, prasit be God, the said towne of Geneva hes nocht a present necessitie thairof; with conditioun that giwe the magistrattis of this burght be streattit be the authoritie to mak payment of the said contributioun to Geneva, that than the towne sall be stentit for the said sowme of aucht hundreth merkis, and the samen vpliftit of thame for releif of the magistrattis as is aboue rehearsit, and no vtherwayis; vpoun the quhilkis premissis, Dauid Mengzeis, prouest, for himselff, and in name of the baillies and counsall, tuik act of court and instrumentis.

Eodem die.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanit Adame Gordoun, kepar of the tolbuith and gray freiris knokis, to be answerit and obeyit in tyme cumming, be the thesaurer of this burgh, for his fie or keping of the said tua knokis, during his guid service allanerlie, and sa lang as he governes the saidis twa knokis weill and diligentlie, of the twa pairt of fourtie merkis, quhilk fourtie merkis was the haill fie ordanit to be payed to him for keping of the saidis tua knokis, and kirk knok; and Dauid Robertsoun, sacristar of the said kirk, quha is appoynted kepar

and rewlar of the said kirk, to be answerit and obeyit of the thessaurar of the third pairt of the said soume of fourtie merkis, for his fie for keping and rewling of the said kirk knok, sa lang as he rewlis and kepis the same weill and diligentlie. 28th June, 1605.

14*th August*, 1605.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, being credablie informit that the noysum plague of pestilence, noth onlie in the townes of Edinburgh, Leyth, and Sanct Androwis, daylie moir and moir increscis, bot lykwayes that with the same plague dyveris townes and willages, noth onlie of the cost syid, bot vtheris pairtis of the south cuntrie, as also the places of Ruthven and Telin is presentlie thairwith infectit, and liklie to spred throw vtheris partis of this realme, and that the towne of Dundie, be resson of the eminent perrell, haid dischairgit thair publict fair, quhilk suld hawe bene hauldin within that burgh, callit the first Marie fair, thairfor for preservatioun and keping of this burght fra the said plague, sa far as may be done be men as instrumentall meanes, (reserwand the rest to the guid plesur of God, kepar of all), devysit, statute, and ordanit, that na nichtbour of this burgh, man nor voman, young nor auld, puir nor riche, frie nor vnfrie, presvme nor tak vpon hand to pas to Bartholomeus fair now approcheing, quhilk suld be hauldin at Kinkairdyn befoir the twentie-fourt day of this instant August, nor to no vther publict mercat outwith this burght, inhibiting thame to pas thairvnto ony maner of way, fra the day and dait heirof, vnder the pane of ane hundreth merkis vsuall money of this realme, to be payit be the contravenar to the dean of gild, efter calling and lawfull convictioun, and giff (as God forbid) ony perrell or infectioun cum to this burght, be reassoun of the passing of ony nichtbour thairof, efter this inhibitioun and restraint, to the said publict mercat, or ony vther fair outwith this burgh, that persoun efter calling and sufficient tryell haid thairof, to suffer death be hanging, or ony vther maner of way, as the counsall sall think expedient, according to the powar and commission granted to the magistrattis of this burght, be the lordis of his Maiesties privie counsall, and that na futte chopman be sufferit to repair and resort to this burght and mercat croce tharof, be quhome perrell may ensew, nather yit that it sall be lesume to ony inhabitant of this burght to pas to the south partis of this realme, without licence and libertie of the

14th August, 1605. provest and baillies of the same; lykwyse that sic as sall be appoyntit and warnit to the watching of the portis, Brig of Dee, harbering mouth, sall watche in thair awne persounes, and that nane house, herbrie, nor resett ony cumming fra the south pairtis, onadvertesit ane of the baillies; that all yairdis, bakyairdis, and bakdykis be maid seure, sufficient, hauldin and keip fast, that na passage be thairby be the haill inhabitantis of this burgh, according to the ordinance maid thairanent of befoir, and vnder the paines thairin contenit, and this ordinance to be publischit be the sound of drum, passing throw the haill rewis of this towne, quhairby nane pretend ignorance thairof, quhilk wes instantlie publischit be Andro Inglis passand throw the haill stretis of the same.

4th September, 1605.

The said day, anent the supplicatioun gevin in to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, be Katherein Burnet, mackand mentioun that thir twa yeiris bygan, scho had vnderlyin baneisment from this hir natiue towne, for sum sclander gewin be hir, in receaving of sclanderous persounes in hir hous, quhairof scho wes convict and decernit to be baneist for the same, and in respect that during thir twa yeiris baneisment scho hes remaneit in service, the first yeir at the Brig of Dee, and sensyn in Drummoak with Elspet Cultis, relict of vmquhile Maister Willeame Dauidsoun, and hes gewin no occasioun of sclander during this tyme, bot hes lewit in honest serwice, quhairvpoun scho hes a testimoniall of the minister of Drummoak testefeing the same, and now being desyrous to serve againe in this hir native toun, for wynning hir lewing, and being resoluit be Goddis grace to leive honestlie be hir honest service and labouris, without sclander or offence in tyme cumming, scho humblie craweit to be receavit and acceptit agane within this burght as a penitent persoun, quha hed alreddie sufferit condigne punischement for hir demerittis, that scho may dwell and remaine within this hir natiwe towne, and serve within the same for hir leiwing in tyme cumming, but any stop as a frie persoun quha hes satisfeit for hir bypast sclanderis, offering to find cautioun for hir guid behaviour in tyme cuming, as at mair lenth wes contenit in hir said supplicatioun; quhilk being presentit befoir the counsall, togidder with ane testimoniall of the minister of Drummoak testifeing hir honest lyiff and conversatioun during hir remaining in his parochin, and thairwith the counsall being advysit, fand that the said

Katherin, in respect of hir twa yeiris baneisement for hir demerittis, had satisfeit thairby the rigour of thair decreit of banischment, and thairfor, and be reasson of the testimonie of hir guid lyiff produceit during hir absence out of this towne, ordaines hir to be receavit and acceptit agane within this burght as a frie persoun, to serve and win hir leiwing within the same in tyme cumming, but ony lett or impediment, vpon cautioun alwyise to be fund be hir, that scho sall presentlie enter in service, and continew in a guid behaviour in tyme cumming, vnder the panis of twentie pundis, to be payit to the dean of gild of this burght, in cace scho be convict heirefter as a sclanderous levar; according to the quhilk, Walter Robertson, burges of the said burght, becom cautionar for the said Katherin, that scho sall enter presentlie in service, and continew of ane guid behaviour in tyme cumming, vnder the paine forsaid, and the said Katherin become actit to releiwe hir said cautionar of the premisses. 4th Sept., 1605.

18*th September*, 1605.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, for certane reassonable considerationis moweing thame, thinkis meit and expedient that the Justice port, quhilk wes ordanit to be hauldin fast now in this dangerous tyme of the plague, be opnit agane, and ane watche sett daylie thairat, as at the vther opine portis, to remaine oppin, and to be watchit ay and quhill the counsall think meit to cloise the same, and sa lang as the said Justice poirt remaines oppin, ordaines the keyheid poirt to be hauldin fast, except at sic tymes as schippis ar lossing and laidning, and than the keyheid poirt to be opnit and watchit, and at all vther tymes to be hauldin fast.

3*rd October*, 1605.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall devysit and ordanit that the sowme of aucht hundreth merkis presentlie in the handis of Dauid Cargill, quhilk wes collectit be voluntar contribution for the help and support of the Brig of Done, becaus the same lyis in his handis on maid proffitt, that annuell rent sall be payed for the samen quhill Witsonday nixt, according to ten merkis the hundreth, and that the said Dauid sall pay the said proffitt, extending to fourtie merkis, for the samen with the said principall soume of aucht hundreth merkis, gif

3rd Oct., 1605.

he happnis to reteine the said principall soume of aucht hundreth merkis quhill the said terme of Witsonday, and giff that the same beis imployit or gewin out be him to ony vther, for annuall quhill the said terme, quhilk for no langer terme sall be gewin out; the said Dauid sall tak the adwyce of the counsall of this burght to quhome the same sall be gewin, and be answerable to the prouest, baillies, and counsall for the said principall soume and proffitt, quhill the said feist of Witsonday.

11*th October*, 1605.

The said day, the provest and baillies fand that the choip presentlie occupeit be Willeam Horne, smyth, on the north syid wall of the said Willeame his hous, lyand in the eist heid of the Castelgett of this burgh, on the south syd of the gett passand to the Justice Poirt, is biggit far without the boundis of the said Willeam his syid wall, on the kingis commoun gett, quhairhy thay find not onlie the kingis gett to be nithered, bot also the aforesaid choip to be ane gryt ilest and preiudice to the gett, the same being ane cheiff entrie and passage to and fra this burght, at ane of the cheiff portis of the same, and thairfoir ordaines the said Willeam Horne to tak doun and demolische the forsaid choip, as biggit vpon the kingis hie streitt, far outwith the boundis of his syd wall, as said is, within [ ] dayes nixt eftir the dait heirof, and the said Willeam Horne being personallie present, wes chairgeit heirto *apud acta*.

18*th October*, 1605.

The said day, anent the complaint maid to the prouest and bailleis be Willeam Ingram, burges of this burght, vpon James Watt, compleaning vpon the said James, that this day at twa houris efternone or thairby, the said James, but ony offence or occasioun be word or deid, offerit to him be the said Willeam, he being standing on the kingis hie streitt in the publict mercatt place, doing his lefull adois, having na mynd of evill, the said James strak him with his sword, skabbert and all, on dyverse pairtis of his bodye, and flogit him thairwith on the wymb, quhairanent the said James being convenit befoir Mr. Richard Irvying and Willeam Lowsoun, baillies, in the commoun clerkis chalmer, and being accusit be thame vpoun the said complaint, the said James denyit the same, and the saidis baillies tacking in witnessis for tryell therof, in the meantyme the said James vttering dyveris proud and irreverent speiches, and being desyrit

be Walter Ronaldsoun, officear, at command of the saidis baillies, to keip silence, the said James most proud and contemtuouslie, noth onlie dissobeyit the said command of the officier, be injuring, calling him swynger, knawe, he wald not be commandit be him, he wald ding sex the lyk of him, bot lykwyse bursting furth in many ma contemptabill and proud speiches, patt on his bonett on his heid in presence of the baillies, and drew furth his dager, aitling to hawe strukin the said officier thairwith, in presence of the saidis baillies, quhairvpoun the said James being commandit to pas to the tolbuith to answer for his said contempt done to the magistrattis, he obstinatlie, proudlie, and maist contemptuouslie refusit to pas to the tolbuith, striking with his feett and handis nocht onlie at the officieris, bot at all vtheris that com neir him, and in end being brocht to the tolbuith, and presentit in judgement, the court being lauchfullie fencit, the said James Watt was then judiciallie accusit vpon the haill premisses, baith for strikking and stopping of the said Willeam Ingrame with his sword, skabbertt and all, in the publict mercatt place of this burght, and lykewayes for his heich and proud contempt done be him in presence of the baillies in the clerkis chalmer, in injuring of the said Walter Ronaldsoun, officier, be word in maner foirsaid, and drawing ane dager aitling to hawe strukin him thairwith in presence of the magistrattis, as said is, quhilk being denyit be the said James, the prouest and baillies causit convene certaine honest nichtbouris, viz., James Fullartoun, tailzeour, Gabriell Stalkar, maltman, Andro Moir, and Johne Touch, baxteris, to bear leall and suithfast uitnessing in the said mater, in sa far as thay knew thairuntill, quhilkis witnessis, admittit be consent of the said James Watt, and being solemnitlie sworne to declair the weretie sa far as thay hard or saw in the premisses, and being seuerallie examined thairvpoun, deponit be thair gryit aithes, that this day about twa houris efternone or thairby, thay wer present nocht onlie in the kingis hie streitt in the publict mercatt place of this burght, quhair they saw the said James Watt strik the said Willeam Ingram with ane sword, skabbertt and all, on the arme and athort the scholderis, and floig him thairwith in the wymb, but any kynd of motion or offence done be the said Willeam to the said James, ather be word or deid, sa far as thay culd heir or sie, bot lykwyise thay wer present in the commoun clerkis chalmer sone thaireftir, quhair thay saw and hard the said James Watt noth onlie injure the said officier be word, calling him knawe and swynger, he suld be equall with him, bot

18th Oct., 1605.

18th Oct., 1605.

also saw the said James draw ane dager, and aitlit to strik the said officier thairwith, in presence of the saidis twa baillies, inrespect quhairof the said James Watt was convict and put in amerciament of court, baith for strikking and floiging with the sword, skabbertt and all, of the said Willeam Ingram in maner foirsaid, and als for his proud and heich contempt done in presence of the saidis baillies, not onlie in refusing to keip silence efter he wes commandit to that efect be the said Walter Ronaldsoun, officier, bot also for iniuring the said officier, calling him knawe and swynger, he suld be equall with him, and for drawing ane dager and aitling to hawe strukin the said officier thairwith, and thairfoir the said James wes ordanit to remaine in waird till he suld find caution that he suld not truble the towne, nor any nichtbour of the same, in tyme cuming, and that he sall satisfie for his foirsaid wrang and contempt at the appoyntment of the counsall, and the said James being chairgit to find the said cautioun, said and affirmit oppinlie in judgement in the kingis fencit court, he suld be equall with the best of thame that mellit with him, and suld brak pairt of thair heidis, quhairfoir the said James wes convict, and put in amerciament of new agane, for trubling of the kingis fencit court.

15th November, 1605.

The quhilk day, the provest, baillies, and counsall being crediblie informit of the lait conspiracie contryvit agance his Maiestie, Quene, Prince, Nobilitie and Estatis of England within the citie of London, vpoun the fyift of this instant November, to hawe blawen thame vp, parliament house and all, with gwn pulder, fra the quhilk odious and damnable treassoun his Maiestie, Quene, Prince, and all, hes, of the meir mercie and fauour of God, escaped; thairfor the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanit the haill inhabitantis of this burght, als weill women as men, young as old, servandis as maisteris, to repair to the paroche kirk this day at ane hour efter none, for hearing of Godis word preachit, and thankis to be gewin to God for his Maiesties weill, Quene, Prince, and estates delyuerie fra the said conspiracie, and that euerie maister of houshold within this burght hawe bene fyris befoir thair yettis and doiris, betuixt thrie and four houris efter none, in takin of thair thankfull hairtis for the mercifull delyuerie, and accompanie the magistratis and ministrie, passing throw the haill streittis and singing of psalmes, and

magnefeing the Lord for the said benefitt, and that at the mercatt croce of this burght sall be decentlie decorit and hung with tapestrie, ane coverit table thairat, with wyne and spycerie, and glassis to be drunkin and cassin, in takin of thair reioycing for the said mercifull delyuerie, and what expenssis the dean of gild deburssis for the said wyn, spycerie, and glassis, to be allowit to him in his comptis. 15th Nov 1605.

4th December, 1605.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsell, vnderstanding that Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorthe, knycht, within this four yeris or thairby hes takin of his Maiestie ane new infeftment, beiring erectioun of Fraserburght in ane brught of baronie, quhilk infeftment and gift comprehendis and incluidis all the liberties, immunities, and preuiledges appertening to ane regall brught, and doctit and grantit to this brught monie hundreth yeiris sence, be his Maiestie's maist nobill progenitouris, especiallie be Alexander the First, King of Scotland, quha doctit this brught to all the liberties and immunities apperteining to ane regall brught, granting thairunto dywerse preuiledges in particular within the haill precinct of the schireffdome of Aberdene, within the quhilk boundis the said Fraserisbrught lyis, and sen the said King Alexanderis dayes, his successouris kyngis of this realme, namelie, Kyng Robert, Kyng Dauid, Kyng James the Secund, Kyng James the Feird, of maist worthie memories, hes grantit to this burght, burgessis, and inhabitantis therof, vtheris liberties within the saidis boundis and precinct, quhilkis infeftmentis and liberties grantit to this burght wilbe grytlie preiudgeit, gif that the said Sir Alexander Fraser sall obtene his infeftment, gift, and erectioune of the said Fraserisbrught, with the liberties grantit thervnto in the said infeftment, ratifiet and approwit in his Maiestie's nixt parliament, for ratificatioune quhairof the said Laird of Philorthe, vpon his large expenssis hes purchest in England his Maiestie's warrant, thairfoir to prevent and obviat the ratificatioun of the samen in the nixt parliament, thoucht it meit and expedient, dewysit and ordaneit, that thair salbe an actionne intentit be this burght vpone the auld infeftmentis gewen to the samen, be his hienes predicessoures, liberties and immunities thairin mentionat, for ane declaratour to be had thairanent, finding the preuiledges grantit to the burght of Aberdene, burgessis, and inhabitantis therof, be the said Kyng Alexander, within the boundis of the schireffdome of Aberdene, and

4th Dec., 1605.

vtheris his successouris, kyngis of this realme, and grantit to the regall burghes of this realme be the actis of parliament, to apertene onlie to this burght as ane frie regall burght within the said precinct, that in the nixt parliament, quhen the same sal happin to be, incaice the Laird of Philorthe seik the erectioune of the said burght of Fraserbrught, liberties and previledges grantit thairvnto be his new infeftment, to be ratifiet, it may be obiectit aganes the samen, that na sic ratificatioune can be grantit, in-respect of ane actioune dependand afoir the lordis, vpoune the toun of Aberdene, his infeftment and previledges grantit thervnto of auld be the said Kyng Alexander, within the schireffdome of Aberdene, and actis of parliament maid in favouris of frie burrowis; and for this effect, vpone Monday last, the secund of this instant, the counsall all in ane voice, but contradictioune, nominat and cheisit James Mowat burges of this burght, to pas south to Edinburgh, and thair be the adwyse of Mr. Willeame Oliphant, adwocat, and sic vther adwocattis of best judgement as the said Mr. Willeam and James sall think maist meit, to lybell and summondis vpone the townis infeftmentis and previledges, for seiking thairvpone ane declaratour of the lordis, that anes the actioune may be put vnder dependance befoir onie parliament, lewing onlie the saidis James expenssis to be modifeit this day, quhom they ordaneit to hawe the sowme of four scoir markis to be payit be Thomas Kyng, thesaurer, to him, and to be allowit to the said Thomas in his comptis; and Johne Merser, saidler, and Dauid Watsoun, tailzeour, dissassentit to the said modificatioune and granting of the said expenssis to the said James.

26*th February*, 1606.

The samyn day, anent the bill gewin in be Alex^r^. Dauidsoun, tymber man in Sanct Androis, mackand mentioun that he hes agreit with the honest men that hes bocht the Wod of Drum, for als mekill tymber as will big ane bark, quhilk bark he intendis, God willing, to big within this towne, and becaus the kirkyard of the Trinitie Freris, quhilk is filthilie abusit be middingis, is the maist meit and convenient place for bigging of the said bark, he humblie desyred for sic service as he micht do to the towne, that he may hawe licence and guidwill of that rowme for bigging of the said bark, seing the tymber is redie in ane flott to cum to this burght, how sone the watter growis, as at mair lenth wes contenit in his said bill; quhairanent the prouest, baillies, and counsall advysing, they

fund the desire thairof verie reasonable, and grantit and gawe licence to the said Alex^r. Dauidsoun to big his schip in the pairt forsaid, viz., in the said Trinitie Freris kirkyaird, conforme to the desyre of his said supplicatioun, and for that effect ordanis all these quho hes laid middingis in the said kirkyaird or thairabout, to remowe and tak avay the same within aucht dayes nixt efter the dait heirof, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fyue merkis, to be vplifted of the persone failzeand, and ordanis intimatioun to be maid heirof to these quho hes the saidis middingis at the pairt forsaid. 26th Feb., 1606.

10th March, 1606.

The said day, publicatioune and intimatioune wes maid be Abraham Cuik, belman, passand throw the haill streitis and rewis of the toune, at command of the prouest and baillies therof, that na inhabitant of this burght, man nor woman, presume nor tak vpon hand to eat onie flesche during the tyme of Lent, nather yit on Wednisday, Fryday, nor Seterday thairefter, in na tyme cuming, vnder the panes contenit in his Maiestie's actis and proclamatiounes maid thiaranent; and that na fleschar nor bucheour within this burght presume to sell onie flesche duering the tyme of Lentrone; and that na tavernar nor hostilar within the samen mak onie flesch reddie during the said tyme of Lentrone, nather yit on Wednisday, Friday, nor Seterday, in na tyme thairefter, vnder the panes contenit in the saidis actis and proclamatiounes; and lykwayes, that all persones haweand onie middingis, stanes, or red of houssis, on the streitis or getis of this toune, to remove and put the same away, within fourtie-aucht houris, vnder the pane of fourtie schillings to be vpliftit of the contravenar, awner of the said midding and red, to be payit to the deane of gild efter lawful convictioune.

1st April, 1606.

The said day, Gilbert Kempt being fand culpable and giltie of the braking of the Sabboth day, trubling of the toun dyvers and sindrie tymes, nicht-walking, playing at cartis and dyce, was ordaneit to sett cautioune, that gif he beis fand culpable in onie of the saidis crymes, to pay to the deane of gild the soume of ten pundis, and to be brint on the cheik, and baneist this burght thairefter, quharvnto the said Gilbert being personallie present consentit, and for payment of the said vnlaw

1st April, 1606.

to the said deane of gild, incaice of his convictioune, fand Alex^r. Kempt, merchand, cautioune and souertie for him, quha becam actit to that effect, and Johne Hutcheon, fleschar, becam actit to releiwe the said Alex^r.

Eodem die.

The said day, anent the bill and supplicatioune gevin in this day to the prowest, baillies, and counsall, be George Leslie of Creychie, makand mentioune that quhair it is nocht vnknawin to thame how rigorous and exorbitant customes, by all law and reasoun, ar raisit in all the fairis and commoun mercatis of this dyocie, bot speciallie in the mercat hauldin at Auld Rayne, callit Sanct Lawrence fair, quhairbe his Maiestie's haill lieges in this land, and speciallie the inhabitantis of this burght, ar grytumlie damnefeit, that thairfoir the said George, in name of the prowest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of the haill inhabitantis of this burght of Aberdene, and in name and at the instans of Johne Leslie of Wardess, Johne Leslie of Pettcappill, George Leslie of Creychie, George Leslie of Auld Craig, James Arbuthnot of Lentusche, for thame selffis and vtheris thair tennentis and servandis, had raisit letteris be delyuerance of the lordis of counsell, to summond Johne Leyth, elder of Harthill, Johne Leyth, younger of Harthill, his sone, to compeir befoir the lordis of counsell, at ane certaine day, quhervnto they ar to be summondit, for be thame selffis, thair complices, and vtheris in thair names, of thair causing, command, assistance, and ratihibitioune, wrangouslie, violentlie, and maisterfullie, without onie kynd of richt, infeftment, gift, licience, or vther warrand grantit to thame be his Maiestie, taking, vplifting, and resaweing of the impost and dewtie vnder wreitin, of the merchandice, gudis, and geir following, cumming to the said mercat, callit St. Lawrence fair, that is to say, of euerie stand sett downe for haulding of merchandice, or ony vther guidis and geir, vpon the ground of the saidis landis of Auld Rayne, threttene schillingis, four d.; of everie ox, kow, or horse, seixtene d.; of everie scheip, aucht d.; of everie stane of woll, ane pund therof; of everie elne of lynning or wollon claythe, four d.; and of all vther sellable wairis cuming to the said mercat, ane certane speciall dewtie, quhilk is sic ane exorbitant custome, and extraordinar forme, quherof nane of the burrowis within this realme hes the lyk, quhilk is maist extraordinarlie extortit and vpliftit, nocht onlie from the merchandis, craftis-

men, and inhabitantis of this burght, bot also fra all vtheris, his hienes frie lieges, be the said Johne Leyth, elder of Harthill, the said Johne Leyth his sone, and thair foirsaidis; and becaus the said actioune tendis to the weill of this burght, merchandis and inhabitantis thairof, and the saidis letteris, raisit be the said George, at the instans of the prowest, baillies, counsell, and communitie therof, as first complenaris mentionat thairin, as the saidis letteris produceit, with the said supplicatioune, of the dait at Edinburghe the twentie day of Marche last bypast, at lenth do testifie, desyiring thairfoir the said prowest, baillies, and counsellis concurrance in the said mater, bayth with thair commissioune to the agent of the haill burrowis of this realme, to insist in persute to seik ane redres of the said extraordinar custome, and the counsell of this burghtis directioune to the townis aduocattis to persew and follow out the said actioune, as ane mater tending nocht onlie to the weill of this burght, bot to the weill of the haill burrowis of this realme, and his Maiestie's haill lieges, as in the said supplicatioune at lenth wes conteanit, with the quhilk supplicatioune and letteris the prowest, baillies, and counsell being adwysit, fand the desyir of the said supplicatioune reassonabill, and ordanit that thair salbe ane letter direct to the agent of the haill burrowis of this realme, fra the prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, to concur as agent for this burght, and the haill remanent burrowis of this realme, in calling of the said actioune, following out and persewing of the actioune thairin contenit aganes the saidis Johne Leythis of Harthill, elder and youngar, and als that directioune in wreit salbe gewein to the tounis aduocatis to compeir for the prowest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of this burgh, for insisting in persute of the said actioune, as ane mater tending to the weill of this burght, and the haill burrowis of this realme, and thocht it meit and expedient that the saidis letteris salbe vsit, followit out, and persewit with all diligence in the nixt following sessione without delay, that the mater may ressawe ane discus in this nixt sessioune, gif possibill can be befoir Lambes nixt cumis, quhilk is the tyme of the halding of the nixt S. Lawrence fair. 1st April, 1606.

16*th April*, 1606.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsell ordaneit Dauid Andersone, maister of kirk wark, to send the brazen cok of the stepill of Sanct Nicolas parish kirk of this burght to Flanderis, with the first

6th April, 1606.

schip that passes fra this burght thairto, to be mendit thair and owergilt, and the same being done, to be erectit and put vp vpon the hicht of the said stepill, in the same place quhair it stuid obefoir, and the expenssis to be debursit be the said Dauid Andersone, to be allowit in his comptis.

3rd May, 1606.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, auld and new counsellis, being convenit, ordaneit Mr. Thomas Mollisoune, common clerk, to delyuer to James Mowat, the chartour gewein to this burght be King Alexander of worthie memerie, vpon this burghtis previledges and liberties, of the dait the twentie-sevent day of Februar, vnder the said kingis gryit seall, quhilk is sealit with grene walx, and als to delyuer to the said James the letteris of horning raisit at the tounes instance againes the Laird of Philorthe, and his tennentis of Fraserburght, quhairbe they ar chargit to desist and ceis frome vseing of merchandice, paking, peiling, lossing, and laidning, &c., of the dait at Edinburght, the twentie-aucht day of December, j^{m} vi^{c} and fyue yeiris, with the executiounes and indorsatiounes of the saidis letteris, to be produceit befoir the lordis of counsell vpon the sextene day of Maij instant, againes the letteris of suspension, raisit and execute be the said Laird of Philorthe againes this burght, suspending the forsaidis letteris of horning, and als to delyuer to the said James the coppie of King Dauidis chartour gewen to the haill burrowis of this realme vpon thair previledges, and ordanies the said James to pas southe with all convenient diligence, for awaiting on the forsaid dyat, as agent for this burght, and to consult with the townis procuratouris, and solist the lordis anent the said actioun of suspensioune, befoir the day of compeirance; and for making of the said James expenssis in ryding to Edinburgh, and awaiting thair on the said actioun, and for gratifieng of the townis procuratouris and clerkis, ordanes the sowme of ane hundreth pundis to be gewein to the said James, of the first end of the fyue hundreth pundis appointit to be gewein to the townis commissionaris, nominat and chosin be the counsell for attending on the said actioun, vpoun the tent day of Apryill last bypast, the said James gewand ane compt to the saidis commissionaris anent his deburmentis of the said sowme of ane hundreth pundis, and if he be superexpendit, to be reambursit agane of the superexpenssis.

28*th May*, 1606.

28th May, 1606.

The said day, the prouest, bailleis, and counsall appoyntis and ordanis Dauid Andersoun, maister of kirk wark, to send to Danskein, and thair to caus by als mekill leid as will extend to the some of ane hundreth and fyue pundis Scottis money, and to caus schip the same in Willeame Measonis bark, and the towne to bear the aventure of the transporting thairof be sey, quhilk they ordane to be brocht hame for reparatioun of the paroche kirk of this burght, and to be allowit to the said maister of wark in his comptis, with quhatsumeuer farder he debursis thairin, for fraucht, custume, and chargis.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, haveing ressaved this day a letter direct vnto thame from the lordis of his Maiesties secreitt counsall, quhairof the tenour folowis: To our richt traist freyndis, the prowest, bailleis, and counsall of Aberdene. Traist freyndis, efter our hartlie commendatiounes, the Kingis Maiestie hes laitlie by wreitt signifeit and declarit vnto the counsall, that it is his hienes expres will and plesure that the parliament of this kingdome, quhilk hes ressaued so many continewatiounes, shall now, God willing, begin and hauld preceislie at Edinburgh, vpon the sevintene day of Junij nixt to cum, and hes ordanit that his haill estates of this kingdome shalbe writtin for to keip the said day; and thairfoir these ar to request and desire you effectuouslie that ye faill not, all excuses sett asyd, to direct and send your commissiouneris quha were at the last parliament to be heir agane the said day, instructed with full power and commission to convene with the rest of the estatis, to advyse, consult, treatt, and conclude vpon sic materis, as at that tyme salbe proponit, and sua resting assured of your commissionaris preceis keping of this dyett, as ye respect his Maiesties obedience and service, we commit yow to God. From Edinburgh the xiii. of Maij, 1606. *Sic subscribitur*, your good freyndis, Montroise, commissionar; A. L., *cancellarius.* Conforme to the desyre of the quhilk letter and for obedience thairvnto, and according to his Maiestie's proclamatioun publeist this day at the mercat croce of this burght, charging the estates of this kingdome to direct thair commissionaris for keping of the said parliament, day and place forsaid, the prowest, baillies, and counsall electit, nominat, and chosit Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prowest, commissionar for this burght for keping of the said par-

8th May, 1606. liament, day and place abouewritten, as he quho wes commission in the parliament immediatlie bypast, and ordanes ane commissionar to be maid to the said Alexander, to the effect forsaid, vnder the townis secreit seall.

19*th July*, 1606.

The quhilk day, being Seterday, the mercat day of the said burght, publicatioun was maid at the mercat thairof, be Androw Hay, ane of the ordinar officieris of the samen, that the magistratis and counsell of this burght had forbidden and inhibeit, and in his Maiestie's name inhibeit and forbade, that nane of hes hienes lieges, dwelland to landwart, far or neir, during this perrellous tyme of the plague of pestilence, quhairwith dyvers partis of Dee syid, and vtheris partis heirabout, ar presentlie viseit, tak upon hand nor presume fra this day furth to cum, resort, or repair to this burght with tymber, vnder the paine of death, or sic vther penaltie as salbe inflictit to the contravenar be the magistratis of this burght, conforme to the commissioun gewen be his Maiestie's counsell to thame thairanent.

26*th December*, 1606.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsell, considering that the festering of monie and gryit vices, and sundrie abuses and enormities quhilk hes bene commitit within this burght, be persones of all sortis in tyme bygane, has bene the selling and venting of wyne, aill, and beir, be the hostilaris and tavernaris at all houris of the nycht, to the gryit dishonour of this burghe, againes all civill ordour within all vther well-governit commoun weillis, for remeid thairof, hes statute and ordaneit, with consent of the haill toune this day convenit, that it sall not be lesum to onie hostilar, tavernar, or vinter of wyne, aill, or beir, to sell or vent onie wyne, aill, or beir, fra ten houris at nicht furth, at the quhilk hour nichtlie the colledge bell within this burghe sall ring, efter the ringing quhairof, gif onie persone, man or woman, salbe fand or apprehendit gangand vpon the streitis or calsayes of this burghe, except sic persones as salbe knawin and tryit be the magistratis to haif necessarie eirandis, that the tavernar and hostilar selling wyne, aill, or beir, efter the said hour of ten of the nicht, and ringing of the said ten hour bell, being tryit and convict thairfor, sall incur and be adjudgit in ane vnlaw of fyve pundis, efter convictioun, *toties quoties ;* and, lykwayes, that it suld nawayes

be lesum to onie tavernar, or hostilar, to sell onie wyne, aill, or beir, in tyme of preiching or prayeris on the Sabboth day, vnder the pane of fyve pundis, to be payit to the deane of gild efter lawfull convictioun, *toties quoties*. 26th Dec., 1606.

Eodem die.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsall, with consent of the communitie, convenit this day, thinkis it meit and expedient that the portis of this burght, with the port on the Brig of Dee, quhilk this lang tyme bypast hes beine keipit and watchit, be reasone that the south pairtis of this realme hes bene viseit with the plague of pestilence, salbe oppnit, and the watches appoyntit and sett thairat salbe dimissit and dischargit, till the counsell be forder advysit, and ressaue new adverteisment of new infectioun, becaus, God be praisit, the plague of pestilens, quhilk wes the caus of the watching thairof, is quenchit in the south pairtis of this realme, prouyding alwayes that na nichtbour nor inhabitant of this burghe pas to Dundy or Perth to by onie merchandice, or to bring onie merchandice thairfra, without licence of the magistrat, vnder the pane of fourtie pundis, to be incurrit be the contraveinar, *toties quoties*.

18*th February*, 1607.

The said day, Margaret Pantoun wes accuisit as ane commoun blasphemar of the name of God, and ane filthie abuiser of hir bodie in harlatrie, in fornicatioun with dyvers persones, towit, ane aquavite man, Robert Makie, and Alexander Kempt, fleschar, as also as ane resetar of unlawfull persones, and thairby being ane vnlawfull nichtbour, swa delatit be the privie inquest, the said Margaret, being personallie present, denyit the said accusatioun, quhilk was thairfor referrit to the knawledge of the assyse, chosen, sworne, and admitit in judgement, quha furth of court removit, and incluisit within the counsall hous, taking diligent tryall and probatioune vpone the poyntis of the forsaid accusatioune, and entering agane in court, they all in ane voice, be the mouth of Dauid Castell, chancellar, convictit the said Margaret of the haill pointis of hir accusatioun above writtin, towit, as ane commoun blasphemar of the name of God, ane abuiser of hir bodye in harlatrie with dyvers persones, and ane vnlawfull nichtbour, inrespect quhairof the prowest and ballies ordanit the said Margaret to be presentlie banisit this burght and friedome therof,

18th Feb., 1606.

and intimatioun of the same to be maid at the mercat croce, as also quhosoever sall resawe hir in thair hous, or set her ane hous, sall pay ane vnlaw of ten pundis to the toun vnforgevin, quhilk banisment of the said Margaret, with the certificatioun forsaid, wes presentlie intimat be the officiaris at the mercat croce.

24*th March*, 1607.

The said day, Alexander Cullen, provest, exponit and declarit to the brethren of gild of this burghe, convenit this day within the tolbuith thairof, for the maist pairt, being warnit thairto be the hand bell, that he, Paull Mengzeis, and remanent baillies, ar chargit, be vertew of letteris gevin be delyuerance of the lordis of secreit counsell, of the date the threttene day of Januar last bypast, to mak payment to Thomas Fischer and Willeame Speare of the soume of four scoir pundis, for this burghes pairt of the sowme of sevin hundreth threttie four pundis, sevin s., 4d., for the said Thomas Fischer and Willeam Speares superexpenssis in thair negotiatioune and commissioune frome the burrowis of this realme, first to England, and thaireftir to France, in companie with the commissionaris of England, for reporting of ane autentik certificat of all sic liberties and priviledges as the Scotis hes aboue the Inglis, and the Inglis aboue the Scotis within the kingdome of France, and for this burghes pairt of the soume of four hundreth markis, quhilkis the saidis lordis of secreit counsell, be thair decreit ordaneit the burrowis of this realme to pay to the said Thomas and William, in contentatioun of thair charges conforme to the saidis lordis allowance of thair comptis and modificatioun, as in the saidis letteris at mair lenth wes contenit, quhilkis wer publictlie red in audience of the said brether of gild, desyring the said brether of gild, convenit as said is, becaus the matter concernis thair estate onlie, and not the haill commounes of this burght, to stent thameselffis for payment of the said soume, and to cheis stentares to that effect, quho being convenit, as said is, be ressone the soume is not gryit, thocht it not expedient that the same sould be presentlie tane vp fra the brethrene of gild, but the same suld be tane vp be the collectour of the impost, vpon profeit, quhill Martimes nixt, to be reimbursit and repayit agane be the maister and collectour of the said impost, fra Michelmes last to Michelmes nixt, and wer content and oblist thameselffis voluntarlie, na man opponand in the contrair, to refound and pay agane the said soume be

stent and contributioune to be imposit vpon thame, at quhat tyme and how sone the wark of the reparatioun of the harberie of this burghe sall begyn, and the necessitie of the said wark sall requeire. 24th March, 1607.

20*th April*, 1607.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsell, being crediblie informit of the new infectioun of the pestilence brokin vp within thir aucht dayes bygane, in the townes of Dundy, Perth, and vtheris pairtis besouth this burght, hes thocht meit and expedient, devysit and ordanit, till thay get forder certantie of the state of the saidis townes, and quhill ane mair solide ordour be takin heirefter anent the keping of this burghe, and portis thairof, gif infectioun sall incress (as God forbid), that this day proclamatioun salbe maid throw the haill streittis of the towne, inhibiting and contramanding that na inhabitant of this burghe pas southe to the said tounes, nor na vther pairt besouth this burgh, without licence had and obtenit to that effect of the provest and baillies, vnder the pane of fourtie pundis, *toties quoties*, to be vpliftit of the contravenar.

22*nd April*, 1607.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsell, being certifeit of the new infectioun of the pestilence laitlie brokin vp in the tounes of Edinburgh, Dundy, and Perth within thir ten dayes bygane, and that be ressone thairof the townes of Montroise, Sanct Androwis, and Couper Fyf hes begun to watche thair townes, thairfoir that this burghe micht be preservit at the good plesour of God, be vsing of the ordinarie menis, sa far as may tend to the preservatioune therof, and inhabitantis of the samen, referring alwayes the watching of the citie to God, but quhais keping all is vaine, devysit and ordanit that the burght salbe kepit and the portis thairof, with the brig port and harberie mouth, be nichtbouris and inhabitantis of the same, as they and every ane of thame salbe requirit to that effect, vnder the panes contenit in the former actis maid thir dyvers yeiris bygane, anent the keiping of the toune in the tyme of the plague, to be vpliftit of the contraveinar, and not keiping of his watche as he beis requyrit thairto; and that the Greyn quarter sal begyn the morne; to that effect the Schoir, Port, and Futtie portis to be cloisit and fastenit, except quhan thair is onie schipis, crearis, or boitis to be chargit, laidnit, or lossit, than

22nd April, 1607. the said Schoir port to be hauldin oppin and kepit as the remanent portis, and the vther four portis, towit, Gallowget, Overkirkget, Netherkirkget, and Justice portis, to be oppin and patent, vatchit, and kepit be twa nichtbouris of this burghe, and at the said Gallowget and Netherkirkget, testimoniallis only to be ressawit; and that all ordinances and statutes maid anent the keiping of this burghe the tyme of the said noysum pestilence, at onie tyme obefoir within thir ten yeiris, speciallie vpon the tuelf day of August, 1597, and vpon the 16 day of September, 1596, and all vther guid lawis sett doune thairanent, speciallie vpon the xxv. day of October, 1603, salbe preseislie obseruit and keipit efter the forme and tenour thairof in all poyntis, vnder the paines thairin contenit preceislie, to be vptakin fra the transgressouris efter lawfull convictioun.

3rd May, 1607.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsell, considdering that the Gray Freir kirk is maid now sa patent, commoun, and open, with all sortis of people, men and wemen, young and auld, thairby far misuseit, the doris and lokis thairof brokin, stowin, and away takin, ane commoun place for keiping of all menis tymber and materiallis, without licence of the magistratis or counsall, the wtter yett or cloise entering thairto maid ane commoun vennell, jakis, priuies, and vther filthines cassin and tumeit thairin, to the gryt dishonour of this burgh, and verie noysum to sic as seis the same, or passis thairby, for remeid therof, ordanit the deane of gild to caus clense and dicht the said forentrie and cloise, put on lokis on the foir entrie and kirk dor, with sufficient keyis thairto lok and oppin the same, caus red the said kirk of all materiallis and tymber, quhomsoeuer the same belongis to, betuixt and the twelf of this instant, warne the persones that pat the said tymber and materiallis thairin, to remove the same within fourtie aucht houris efter they be requirit, with certificatioun, gif they failzie thairin, that it salbe lesum to the said deane of gild to put the same to the calsey vpone thair expenssis, and that the said Gray Freir kirk sall not be heirefter vsit in keiping of matteriallis, nor halding of courtis be craftismen thairin, without ane ordinance of the counsall had thairto; forder, that the said deane of gilde, with all convenient diligence, caus point the said Gray Freir kirk with lyme and sklaitis quhair the same wantis, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

15th May, 1607.

15th May, 1607.

The said day, Walter Robertsoun, youngar, James Robertsoun, youngar, and Patrik Mengzeis, being accusit for trubling of the toune this day, in drawing of dageris and stricking at vtheris thairwith, quhilk being denyit be thame, the prowest and baillies tuke in certane witnessis for tryell thairof, quho being sworne and examinat, it was fand that they trublit the toune as folowis, to vit, the said Patrik for drawing a straik with his hand at the said Walter, the said Walter for casting a dager at the said Patrik, and the said James for stricking the said Patrik on the heid with a trie, quhairfor, they and ilkane of thame wer convict and put in amerciament, and ordanit to find cautioun that they shuld mak na farder truble nor persute aganis vtheris in tyme cumming, ilkane of thame vnder the pane of fourtie lib., and for modificatioun of thair vnlawis acccording to the quhilk, James Mowatt becom cautioun for the said Walter, and Mr. Gilbert Gray becom cautioun for the said Patrik Mengzeis to the effect aboue specifieit, and ilkane of thame becom actit to releiwe thair awin cautionar.

29th July, 1607.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsell ordanit publict intimatioun to be maid, quhilk wes instantlie done he the drum passand throw the haill streitis of this burghe, chargeing and commanding in his Maiestie's name and authoritie, and in the name of the prouest and baillies of this burghe, the haill men and inhabitantis of the same, fensable persones, as weill fre as vnfre, to prepair and address thameselffis weill and substantiouslie provydit, furneisit, and armit with licht corslet, pik, muscat, with forcat, bandroll, and head piese, jak, speir, and vtheris cleir and fute wapounes without onie rust, with hagbutis and flaskis, for keiping of the musturis and wapinschawing appointit to be hauldin vniuersallie on the fourt day of August nixt to cum, be vertew of his Maiestie's proclamatioun maid on the ninytene day of this instant July, at the mercat croce of this burghe, be Gilbert Guthrie, youngar, marchemount herald, be vertew of his Maiesties letteris, gewen be vertew of ane act of his hienes counsell, of the dait at Edinburgh the sevin day of July instant, vnder the panes contenit in the saidis letteris; and forder, causit mak intimatioun be the said drum to the haill inhabitantis of this burghe, that they prepair thameselffis and be in reddiness, sufficientlie armit and furneisit, as said is, to accompanie thair magistratis vpon quhatsumeuir

9th July, 1607.

day befoir the said fourt day of August they salbe warnit be the said drum, to giwethair mustaris at sic hour and place as they salbe appointit at the nixt warning be the said drum, as they wald eschew the perrell conteneit in the saidis letteris, and nocht countit disobedient subjectis to his Maiestie, and vnder the pane of [ ] to be incurit be the persone that beis absent, to be payit to the magistratis, less or mair, as it sall pleis the magistrat to modifie, according to the habilitie of the persone, and that nane of thame cum to the said musturing with roustie hálbertis, jeveling, or dence aix.

9th September, 1607.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsell of this burghe, vnderstanding that the commoun inche of this burghe callit the Trinitie inche, and the vther inches belanging to the salmound fischingis of the raik, mydchingill, and fuirdis, are daylie cassin vp and delvit, to the hurt of the said fischikgis, thairfoir statute and ordaneit that it sall not be lesum to any persone within this burghe, gryit nor small, puir nor riche, to delue or holk the said commoun inche, or to cast faill in the saidis inches of the raik, mydchingill, and fuirdis, in onie tyme cuming, vnder the paines following, to be preceislie vpliftit of the contraveinar without favour, to be payit to the deane of gild, that is to say, of the persone gevand command to cast faill in ony of the saidis inches, fyve merkis, and of the caster, twa merkis, and of the leidar, twa merkis, *toties quoties;* and lykwayes, considdering that the west pairt of the Womanhill, narest the Playfeild, Heiddounshill at the Gallowget heid, and Heiddounshill besyde the Castelhill, ar holket out be the leidaris of sand, and lykly thairby, be proces of tyme, to vndermyne and destroy the saidis hillis, thairfor ordanes, that na sand leidar within this burghe presume nor tak vpon hand to tak or leid away onie sand fra onie of the saidis hillis in tyme cuming, vnder the pane of twa merkis, to be payit to the deane of gild be the contraveinar, *toties quoties;* bot that all sand to be led be thame in tyme cuming to this burghe, salbe takin and hoillit betuixt Futty and the Blokhous, and at na vther part, and ordanies publicit intimatioun to be maid heirof, throw the haill streitis of this toun, be the hand bell, that nane pretend ignorance thairof.

11th September, 1607.

The said day, the toun being convenit this day in the tolbuith, for sup-

pressing of the insolencies of a numer of deboschit and disorderit persones, alsweill inhabitantis of this burght as extranearis, leving edillie and louslie, without anie calling or vocatioun, daylie trubilling this toun and nichtbouris thairof, agreeit and consentit, all in ane voice, that thair suld be charges and expenssis maid for sending commissionaris to his Maiestie's secreit counsell, for taking ordour and punischment of the said persones, trublaris of this burgh and nichtbouris theirof; and becaus thair wes no fordell siluer in the handis of the thesaurer nor deane of gild vnbestowit vpon the tounes commoun effaris, thay wer content and consentit that the auld and new counsellis of this burght suld modiefie and sett doun sic a sowme as suld mak the charges in the said eirand, and that thay suld chuise stentaris to stent the same on the haill inhabitantis, how sone they thocht the same expedient to be done, promesing to pay ilk ane thair awin pairt of sic as suld be stentit, conforme to the stent roll to be sett doun thairvpon; and for eschewing of trubles within this burgh in tyme cuming, and resisting and withstanding of the trublaris of the Kingis peace within the same, ilk nichtbour promeist to concur and assist thair magistratis, and to hawe reddie in thair buithes and houssis at all occasiounes, to the effect foirsaid, thair armour, speciallie and bandit staffis; as also consentit and aggreit that thair salbe a nichtlie watche of xii. persones to pas throw the streitis of this toune, to sie that thair be no wandering persones efter the hour of ten, to continew induring the will of the counsell, and everie man to keip his watche in proper persone, to begyn at nyne houris at evin, and to continew till fyve houris in the morning, with hagbut and lang wapoun, ilk persone warnit to the watche, and nocht comperand in proper persone, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fyve pundis to be payed to the deane of gild. 11th Sept., 1607.

7th October, 1607.

The quhilk day, anent the humble supplicatioun gevin in to the prowest, baillies, and counsall be Edward Diggens, Englischman, craveing libertie to teache the youthe within this burghe in wreitting and arithmetik, for the space of thrie monethis allanerlie nixt efter the dait heirof, promeising in that space at farest to leirne the youth a sufficient habite of a legible hand, they resorting to him four houris at least in the day, and to teache the poore for Godis sake, and the ritche for reasone, and nothing to be payit except they be profited, as at gryit lenth wes contenit in his

7th Oct., 1607.

said supplicatioun, quhairwith the counsell being advysit, and having sene sufficient and famous testimoniallis fra Glasgow, Dumfreis, and dyvers vtheris pairtis, not onlie of the saidis Edwardis guid lyif and conversatioun, bot also of his fruitfull and profitable travellis amongis thame, in instructing of thair youthe to wreit fair and perfyitlie, and haveing sene also dyvers examplaris and paperis of his hand wreit, findis him verie qualifiet to teache the youth in writing, and thairfoir be thir presentis grantis libertie and licence to the said Edward to tak vp a writting schoole in this burghe, for instructing of the youth in writing and arithmetik allanerlie, nixt efter the dait heirof, provyding that he teiche his scolleris onlie to wreit and in arithmetik, and no vtherwayes, and that the scolleris exceid the aige of ten yeiris.

Eodem die.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsell, thocht it meit and expedient that thair salbe a sute maid to his Maiestie's secreit counsell, in name of the magistratis of this burghe, that they may be frie of any charges to be gevin thame be letteris of captioun for taking and puting in ward of clannit gentilmen resorting to this burght, denuncit rebellis for sclanchter, and vther capitall crymes, quhairwith the magistratis of this burghe ar so frequentlie chargit, quhilkis thay are not hable to put to executioun be reasoun of the gryitnes and power of the pairties, bot that the magistratis of this burghe be no forder obleist, notwithstanding of onie sic charges, bot onlie to giwe thair concurrance to the schirreff of the schyre, and his deputis, and that thair be ane direct frome the counsell of this burghe to my Lord Marqueis, with sum informatioun in this mater, and continewis the nominatioun of the persone or persones that salbe employit in this errand to the nixt convenient counsall day.

23*rd October*, 1607.

The quhilk day, the provest, baillies and counsell, vnderstanding that dyvers inconveniences hes often fallen out within this burghe be fyir in tymes bygane, quhilk hes proceidit throuche the owersight and negligence of servandis and vtheris, nocht onlie be carying of lichtit candell to loftis and places vnder bedis, bot lyikwayes be rubing and dichting of lint besyid ingle and fyir within houssis, vnder silence and cloud of nicht, as experience in tyme bygane, and laitlie yisternicht within the citie of Auld

Abirdene, dois testifie, thairfor it is statute and ordanit be the saidis provest, baillies, and counsell, and for ane perpetuall law be thame establischit, that na inhabitant within this burghe presume or tak vpone hand to dicht or rub be thame selffis or ony vtheris at thair command, any lint in tyme cuming vpone the nicht, bot that all lint be rubit and dicht on day light, betuixt the sone ryising and going doun, certifieing sic as salbe fund doing in the contrair, efter they be convict, to incur the vnlaw of fyve pundis, to be payit to the deane of gild, *toties quoties*, quhilk ordinance wes instantlie intimat to the toune be the hand bell. 28rd Oct., 1607.

8th December, 1607.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit this day within the tolbuith, warnit thairto be the hand bell, representand the haill bodie of the toune, electit, nominat, and chuisit thir persones efter following, they ar to say, Henrie Forbes, Dauid Cargill, George Nicolsoun, Alex$^{r.}$ Kempt, Mr. W$^{m.}$ Moir, James Fergussone, Thomas Douglas, Johne Merser, saidler, and Gilbert Blak, coupar, taxtaris and stentaris, to stent the sowme of aucht hundreth fourscoir aucht pundis, sevintene s., nyne d., vpon the haill inhabitantis of this burghe, frie and vnfrie, as for the burghes pairt of ane hundreth thowsand markis, for the secund yeiris stage, towit, the Candelmas terme j^{m} vi^{c} and aucht of the taxatioun of four hundreth thowsand markis grantit be the estates of this realme, to his Maiestie in the parliament at Perth, in the moneth of July j^{m} vi^{c} and sex yeiris, and lykwayes to stent vpon the saidis inhabitantis the soume of twa hundreth twentie twa pundis, four s., fyve d., fourt pairt pennie, and for this burghes pairt of the taxatioun of twentie fyve thousand merkis, grantit be the estatis in the parliament haldin at Edinburgh in the moneth of [ ] last, for support of the burgh of Dumbartane, quhilk is liklie to be wrakit be the inundatioun of the watter of Clyde, quhilkis persones aboue writtin, chosen to be stentaris as said is, acceptit the stenting of the saidis sowmes in and vpon thame, and gawe thair aithes to stent the same vpone the haill inhabitantis, ilk persone according to thair habilitie and estait, according to thair knawledge, but feid or favour.

4th February, 1608.

The said day, Gilbert Kempt, fleschar, quha, be ane sworne assyse,

February, 1608. wes convict obefoir for commoun drunkard, harlat, nicht-walker, and vtheris enorme crymes, as the act of his convictioun, of the dait the nynteint day of Januar last proportis, and being therefore beneist this burghe and friedome thireof, be vertew of ane ordinance of councell past vpone the said convictioun, malignantlie contempnand the said ordinance, fund and apprehendit within this burghe, wes agane committed in ward, and of new ordanit agane to be had publictlie to the mercat croce, the birne irne het to be presentit to him thair, to terrifie him and vtheris to repair to this burghe efter banishment, and agane be oppin proclamation to be banisht the burghe and friedome thereof, be ane publict voice of ane of the officiaris, with this certification, that gif he beis apprehendit heriefter within this burghe, to be brint on the cheik with the said birne irne, and scurgit throw the toun.

20*th April*, 1608.

The said day, the haill toune, being convenit within the tolbuith for the maist pairt, being warnit thairto be the hand bell passand throw the haill rewis and streitis therof, quhairvpon the bearer maid faith, it wes exponit to thame be Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prouest, that all and sindrie erles, lordis, barones, frehalderis, and gentilmen, within the boundis of the schirefdomes of Aberdene, Banff, Elgyn, Forress, Narne, Inuernes, Cromartie, Sutherland, and Caitnes, alsweill within regalitie as royaltie, and the inhabitantis of this burghe, and of the burghes of Dundie, Montroise, Banff, Elgyn, Inuernes, Rosmarkie, Tain, and Cromartie, wer vnder charges to meit his Maiesties liuetennent, to be appointit at the said burghe of Inuernes, vpone the first day of Junij nixt to cum, bodin in feir of weir, therefra to pas fordward in the prosequitione of his Maiestie's service, vpon the north yles, for dantoning of the insolent inhabitantis therof, with cariage and palliones to ly in the feildis, and with fourtie dayes victuall and prouisioun efter thair cuming to Inuernes, as the coppie of the proclamatioun quhilk was this day red in judgement, gewin be delyuerance of ane act of his Maiesties secreit counsell, of the dait the tent day of Marche last bypast, at lenth dois testifie, and that the provest, baillies, and counsell, being cairfull that the inhabitantis of this burghe shuld not incur onie hurt, damage, or skaith, for not obtempring to the said proclamatioun, the tyme being so schort and now approcheing, hes thought meit and expedient to caus deill with his hienes secreit counsell of this

kingdome, or with his hienes liuetennent, sic as salbe appointit for a discharge to this burghe for their passing fordward to the said raid, and to compone with his hienes thesaurer for the said discharge, for als easie a composition as may be had, and to send a commissionar south to that effect for this burghe, gif the said raid be not continewit nor dischargit, and thairfore inquirit of the town, convenit as said is, quhat course they thought best to follow for eschewing of the danger of the said proclamation, quha all in ane voice, but oppositioun or contradictione, thocht it meit and expedient that a commissioner suld be chosen be the counsell of this burght, to be send to his Maiesties priuie counsell, to the effect aboue specifeit, and that the said commissioner shuld deill to have a composition to be takin of this burghe and inhabitantis therof, for abyding fra the said raid, rather or the toun shuld be subiect to obey the tennour of the samen ; and forder, they wer content and consentit, all in ane voce, but contradiction, as said is, to be stentit for payment of sic a composition as the commissionar suld compone, for a discharge of the said raid, and for the expenssis of the said commissionar to be employit thereintill, and that letteris be gevein, be delyuerance of the lordis of secreit counsall, aganes them, for convening thameselffis to cheis stentaris to the effect forsaid, and the stentaris being chosen, to charge them to stent the said compositioun, with the commissioners expenssis, on the haill inhabitantis of this burghe, and being stentit, to charge the inhabitantis to mak payment therof, ilk ane for thair awin partis, according to the stent roll to be set doun theranent, quhairvpone the said Alex^r. Rutherfurd, prouest, tuik act and instrumentis. 20th April, 1608.

11th May, 1608.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, and counsell, considering the great paines takin be Dauid Robertsone, their kirk officier, in reuling of the kirk knok, the passage thereto being so strait and heighe, that besyid his great paines he weiris his claithes exceidingly, and the hailing of her paises being so weychtie, that he is forcit to giwe four merkis in the first end of his stipend for hailing thairof yeirlie, his stipend being onlie threttene merkis for rewling thirof, and finding of oyle and candil thairto, thairfoir augmentit to his said former stipend the sowme of sevin merkis, making in the haill the soume of tuentie merkis, quhairof the thesaurer is ordanit to pay him xiii. merkis yeirlie, and the maister of kirk work sevin

11th May, 1608. merkis, the first termes payment to haif begun at Martimes last, quhilk salbe allowit to thame yeirlie in thair comptis, the said Dauid findand candill and oyle to the said knok.

24th May, 1608.

The said day, Alexander Rutherfuird, prouest, intimated to the haill inhabitantis of this toun, frie and vnfrie, being convenit for the maist pairt within the tolbuith, representand the haill bodie, and warnit thairto be the hand bell, his Maiesties proclamatioun maid anent making of wapinschawing vpone the aucht day of Junij nixt, and causit in all thair audience reid the said proclamatioun, maid be vertew of ane act of his Maiesties secreit counsell, of the dait the twentie-fyft day of Aprile last bypast, quhairby they shuld pretend na ignorance thairof, desyring thame to provyd thameselffiis to mak thair musteris and wapounschawing the said aucht day of June, in the sortis of armour prescriuit be the said proclamatioun, and contenit in the lawes, actis, and constitutiounes maid anent making of wapounschawings, vnder the panes contenit in the saidis lawis, actis, and constitutionis.

9th August, 1609.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, vnderstanding that be reasoun of diverse complainttis, gewin in aganis the bairnis and scoleris of the gramer and sang schoollis of this burghe, for trubling and striking of the serwandis of diuerse nichtbouris within the samyn, vsing of gryt disordour and enormities thairin and about the burghe, for avoiding thairof, ordanit maister Dauid Wedderburne, maister of the gramer schooll, and Patrik Dauidsoun, maister of the sang schooll, and all vtheris succeeding to be maisteris of the said schoollis, that they ressaue nor admit na man sone, dwelling to landward, to thair saidis schoollis in tyme cuming, quhill the parent of the barne, or sum vther freind or burges of this burgh, cum, in presens of ane of the baillies therof, and find cautioun and sourtie actit in the tounis buikis, that the said barne and scoller sall nawais repyne to the ordour and discipline of the maister, nor yit trubile be way of ded man nor voman, maister or serwand within this burgh, or outwith the same, sa lang as thay remaine scoleris in ony of the saidis tua schollis, vnder the palmer of the saidis maisteris, vnder the pane of fourtie pundis, less or mair, according to the gravetie of the falt, and habilitie of the parent of the scholer offending.

15th August, 1610.

15th Augus 1609.

The said day, the prowest and baillies ordanit the contract vndirwrittin, with the acquittance efter following, to be insert and registrat in the baillie court buikis of this burghe, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, of the quhilk contract the tennour followis: At Abirdene the tuentie-nynt day of November, the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and nyne yeiris, it is appointit, contracted, faythfullie oblegit, aggreit, and endit, betuixt Alex$^{r.}$ Rutherfurd, prowest of Abirden, Mr. Alex$^{r.}$ Cullen, Mr. David Rutherfurd, Williame Lowsoun, and George Nicolsoun, baillies therof, Maister James Ross, minister of Godis word at the forsaid burghe, Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, and Dauid Andersoun, maister ot wark of the same burgh, be advyse of the counsall therof on the ane pairt, and Androw Jamesoun masoun on the vther pairt, in maner following: that is to say, forsamekle as the bow brig at the wast end of the Grene of the said burgh, biggit ower the Den Burne, quhilk is ane commoun passage to and fra the said burgh, to all his Maiesties lieges repairing thairto, wes first biggit with ane bow onlie, quhilk be reasoun of the invndatioun of great spaittis of watter was nocht sufficient nor habill to ressaue the haill water that ran in the said burne the tyme of spaitt, be reasoun the said ane bow wes ower litill and narrow, and inrespect therof the said burne, efter great rayne, being in spat, brak out oft and diuerse tymes be vehement force, wantand passage towardis the eist, and domoleschit and keist doun ane great pairt of the bow of the said brig, and enterit within malt and corne barnis nixt adiacent therto; nathir yit thairby culd thair be ony passage in tyme of spait to na persone on horse nor fut; for remeid thairof it is thocht meit and expedient that the said brig salbe sufficientlie biggit with stane and lyme, hawand tua bowis, in maner and forme as followis, and to that effect the said Androw Jamesoun faythfullie bindis and oblessis him, be this present, to big and repair ane brig ower the said Den Burne, at the same pairt quhair the same is presently situat, with tua bowis as is vnderspecifeit, that is to say, the said Androw sall tak doun the bow of the said brig, presently standing, to the ground, tak of the frie wark of the north syd therof, to serue for the south syd of the wast bow to be biggit, and to mak the north syd of boithe the bowes of the said brig: the vtter course of hewin wark, outlairis, and the pend of baythe the bowes to be of roche wark within, the entre of the

5th August, 1610. brig vpoun the eist and west pairtis to be biggit as it wes of befoir, the wall of the eist syd of the same brig, and the north syd therof, to be biggit to the cauzie of the barne of Androw Gothray, lyand adiacent therto, and the wall ascendand vpe to the said brig on baythe syddis therof, beginnand at the entrie of ilk end to proceid vpe, that it be thrie futtis hight aboue the vmest pend, as it wes of befoir ; and the keaping stane to be of outlairis, frie wark, and boulted with irne fra the eist end to the wast end on ilk syd ; and the said Androw sall tak out the stanes quhair the wast bow of the said brig sall stand, quhilk west bow the said Androw is hauldin to big, and the beak and found of the mid piller betuixt the tua bowis to be of outlair stanes to the heicht of the centreis therof, on ilk syd of the piller, quhilk outlair stanes the said Androw sall searsche and seik out quhair the same may be maist commodiously haid, dres the same ready to be cartit, and the carter to be payit on the tounis charges, quhilk brig the said Androw, be this present, undertakis to big sufficiently with tua bowis, as said is, of the hight, bread, and wydnes as the same presently standis, betuixt the dait heirof and the secund day of Junij nixt to cum, the saidis prowest, baillies, maister of wark, and deane of gild, findand lyme, centreis, skaffaling, irne boultis, lead, and vther necessaris for the wark, and paying for the careage of lyme, stane, and vther matteriallis to the samyn ; forder, the said Androw sall big and hew ane rod on baythe the syddis of the said brig, and battell the said brige on baythe the syddis of the samyn with hewen wark ; the saidis prowest, baillies, maister of wark, and deane of gild sall pay to the said Androw Jamesoun the sowme of tua hundreth and fyftie merkis vsuall money of this realme at thir termes, and in maner following, to witt, the third pairt therof at his entrie to the wark, ane vther third at the ending of the halff of the said wark, and the last third of the said tua hundreth and fyftie merkis at the compleit ending and finishing of the said wark, and that in compleit payment and full satisfactioun of ony thing the said Androw may ask or crawe for fie and bountay in biging of the said wark, as is aboue prescryvit, and the said brig to be staggit and branderit sufficiently in deipnes vnder the channall, to mak a sufficient ground to big vpoun, be the sicht and advyse of the saidis prowest, baillies, deane of gild, and maister of wark ; and for the mair securitie, the saidis pairteis consentis that thir presentis be registrat in the baillie court buikis of the said burghe, to haue the strenthe of ane

confessit act and judiciall decreit, with executionis to be direct theron, on ane single charge of sex dayis, *et ad futuram rei memoriam*, and to that effect constitutis, &c., coniunctly and seuerallie, thair lawfull procuratouris, *promittentes de rato*, in witnes quhairof bayth the saidis pairteis hes subscryuit thir presenttis with thair handis, day, moneth, and yeir forsaid, written be Walter Robertsoun, clerk depute of the said burghe, befoir thir witnesses, Mr. Gilbert Gray, Robert Johnestoun, Henrie Forbes, burgessis of the said burgh, Mr. Thomas Mollesoun, commoun clerk therof, and the said Walter Robertsoun. *Sic subscribitur*, Alexander Rutherfurd, prowest, Mr. Alex^r^ Cullen, baillie, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, baillie, William Lowsoune, baillie, George Nicolsoun, baillie, Dauid Cargell, with my hand, Dauid Andersoun, with my hand, Androw Jamesoun, masoun, with my hand. Followis the acquittance: I, Androw Jamesoun, masoun, be thir presenttis, grantis me to haue ressauit from Dauid Andersoun, maister of wark of the said burgh of Aberdeen, in name of the prowest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of the said burghe, the sowme of tua hundreth and fyftie merkis vsuall money of this realme, in full and compleit payment and full satisfactioun of thair pairt of the contract within writtin, and of all that I may ask or crawe at thame, for the biging of the brig within specifeit ower the Den Burne, of the quhilk sowme in full and compleit payment of thair pairt of the contract within writtin, I hald me weill content and payit, and discharges the said maister of wark, prowest, baillies, counsell, and communitie of the said burghe, of the said sowme, and of thair pairt of the said contract, *simpliciter* and for ewer, and is content that this my discharge be registrat with the contract within writtin, in the burrow court buikis of the said burghe, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, be this my acquittance, written and subscryuit with my hand, at Aberdeine, the nynt day of August, the yeir of God j^m^ sex hundreth and ten yeiris, befoir thir witnessis, Mr. Johnne Mortymer, thesaurer of the said burghe, Mr. Thomas Mollesoun, commoun clerk therof, and the said Walter Robertsoun. *Sic subscribitur*, Androw Jamesoun, masoun, with my hand, Mr. Johnne Mortymer, witness, Mr. Thomas Mollesoun, as witnes, Walter Robertsoun, writter heirof, witnes.

15th August 1610.

12*th December*, 1610.

Instructiones to the commissionaris appoynted for keping and preserving

12th Dec., 1610.

of his Majesties peace within the boundis of the shirefdome of Aberdene.

You are all of you to convene togidder four tymes a-yeir, viz., the first Tuysday of Februar, the first Tuysday of May, the first Tuysday of August, the first Tuysday of November, and your first meting yeirlie to be at the heid burgh of the schyre, and the rest of your metingis to be in suche vther pairt and place as you sall agrie vpon among yourselffis at the first meting; and you ar to consult, aduyse, and deliberat vpon all the best meanes for the preventing of ensewing disordors, and puneshing of offences past, and for that effect you are to certifie by your letter the lordis of his Majesties priwie counsall, at everie tyme of your metingis, concerning the present estate and conditioun of these boundis, within the which you ar nominat commissionaris, of all such riottis or vther trespasses committit, tending to the breache of the peace within these pairtis, since the tyme of your last meting, and you ar to send the same with a particular informatioun of the names of the pairteis delinquent, the circumstances of the deid itselff, and of the best pruiffis that can be vsit in the tryell of that mater.

You ar to mak inquirie of all Jesuittis, seminarie preistis, and excommunicat trafficquing papistis within your boundis, and of the ressettaris, supplearis, and intertenearis of thame, and giwe informatioun thairof to his Majesties counsell, or priuatlie to his Majesties chancellar, thesaurer, tua arch bishoppis, or ony one of the counsall whome you sall think meit, and you sall command the persones in whose houssis you sall try ony of the saidis Jesuittis, seminarie preistis, and excommunicat trafficquing papistis to be resett, to mak the same persones furthcummand to the counsall, as thay salbe chargit for.

You ar to certifie the lordis of counsall at ewerie tyme of your convening, gif thair be ony likliehood or apperance of ony trubill betuixt pairteis within the boundis of your commandement, and thairwith you ar to send your best awise how the samen, be thair authoritie, may be stayed, so that vpon your adwertisement thay may tak the nixt expedient cours for preserving of the peace.

At the tyme of your metingis you ar to consult among yourselffis vpon the best means for suppressing of this great grouth of strong and idill wagabund beggaris, so as thay may be forced ather to betak thameselffis

to work, or then compellit to leawe the cuntrie, and ewere ane of you, when ye ar returnit to your awin houssis and duellingis, ar to be cairfull to sie these ordors executed, and speciallie to hawe stockis at your awin houssis for the moir readie punishing of such idill people. 12th Dec. 1610.

You ar lykwayes to be cairfull concerning the vpholding and repairing of the briggis that ar not vtterlie ruyned, that some cours may be takin be the cuntrie nixt adiacent, to giwe some supplie for that mater, and when by your endeworis this salbe procured, the cuntrie willing to contribute, you ar to certifie his Majesties counsall therof, that thay may approve the same be thair authoritie.

And also you ar to prouyd for helping of the Kingis hie wayes, als weill for the benefeit of the cariages as ease of passingeris, and speciallie you ar to be cairfull that no priwat persone encroche vpon the same way, be macking of the samen straitter nor formerlie it hes bene, and as you find any trespas committit in this kynd, and the pairtie refusing to repair it, you ar then to put him vnder suirtie for his apperance befoir our counsall, and you ar to certifie the lordis of our counsall.

At the tyme of your metingis you ar to consult efter what forme the cuntrie may be best prouydit of good innes and ludgingis, for the ease of passingeris of all sortis, and as you shall resolve vpon a good overture for that effect, you ar to acquaint the counsell thairwith, and procure of thame thair approbatioun, assistance, and authoritie of the samen.

You ar to mak speciall inquirie at your metingis, of all such as do cutt grene wod, destroy planting, vse vnlawfull and prohibite game, with lying doggis, slayene of blak fishe, and vther fishe in forbidden tyme, or ony offendaris in the crymes of lyk qualitie, and to put thame vnder suirtie for thair apperance, ather befoir the counsall or justice, whensoeuer thay salbe chargit.

You ar to informe the lords of counsall, of all such as shalbe delated to bear hagbuttis, and pistollis, and gif ony of yourselffis sall deprehend ony man offending in this kynd, you shall committ him prisonner to the nixt giall, vnto such tyme as he doeth find suirtie for his apperance to ansuer for that mater, ather befoir the counsall or justice.

As ony of you sall tak ony suirtie for apperance of the offendar, you sall ingros the same in a priwat booke, whiche you sall bring with you, the tyme of your nixt meting with the rest of the justices, and then shall all such bandis off cautionarie, tane by anie of you that ar justices, to be

12th Dec., 1610.

insert in a register, by one who shal be appoynted to be clerk for attending these metingis, who is to send a short extract of the same, euere half-yier, to his Maiestie's thesaurer or his depute.

You are to enquire of all forstaleris and regrateris off mercatts, and to giwe informatioun of thame to his Maiestie's thesaurer or his depute.

You ar to enquire of all vnnecessary ail houssis in the cuntrie, which ar the ressittis of the idill wagabundis and beggaris, and gewis occasioun of the frequent pykrie and stouthis in the cuntrie.

7th August, 1611.

The said day, the baillies and counsell hes assignit the nynetene day of August instant, for ane publict wappinschaw and mustering of the haill inhabitantis of this burghe, fensibill men, alswell vnfrie as frie, to be on the common Linkis thairof, for keiping of the actis of parliament, and his Maiesties proclamation maid thairanent; and hes ordanit and ordanis all men, inhabitantis, indwellaris, within this burghe, to prepair and mak thameselffis reddie aganis the said day, furnest sufficientlie, ilk persone with his awin armour, quhairvpon he salbe hauldin to giwe his consciense, sic as corslet, jack, pick, spear, muskattis, hagbuttis, halbertis, and twa-handit swordis; and ordanit publicatioun and intimatioun to be maid heirof, be the drume passing throw the haill streitis of the toune, that nane pretend ignorance thairof, certifieing sic as salbe absent that day fra the said musturing, or yit being present nocht sufficientlie armourit, that they sall incure the vnlaw of twentie pundis, to be payit to the deane of gild, to the reparatioun of the commoun workis of the toune.

14th August, 1611.

The said day, the baillies and counsell, considdering that Barthol fair, and simmer Ruiffis fair, ar to be hauldin this nixt week, be reasone quhairof the nichtbouris, burgessis, and induellaris thairof can nocht convenientlie keip the wappinschaw on Mononday nixt without thar gryt hurt and preiudice, thairfor the counsell hes continuit the haulding of the said wappinschaw till Mononday cum fyfteine dayes, the secund day of September nixt to come, quhilk they ordane to be intimat this day be the drum to all and sindrie the nichtbouris and inhabitantis of this burghe, charging all and sindrie the nichtbouris and inhabitantis of this burghe,

fensibile men, baith frie and vnfrie, to prepair thameselffis, and be in readines to giwe thair musteris and wappinshaw vpoun the Linkis of this burghe, vpoun the secund day of September nixt to cum, weill furneisched in all wearlyk forme, with muskattis, hagbuttis, corslettis, spearis, jackis pickis, and tua handit suordis, according to the ordour prescryvit be the actis of parliament, and his Maiesties proclamatioun, certifeing all sic as salbe absent fra the said musturing, or sall nocht cum sufficientlie armit thairinto, the said secund day of September, and give thair conscience that the armour borne be thame is thair awin, that they sall pay twentie pundis vnlaw preceislie vnforgiwen. 14th August, 1611.

2nd September, 1611.

The quhilk day, the inhabitantis of this burghe, burgessis and craftismen, baith frie and vnfrie, for obedience to the actis of parliament, and his Maiestie's proclamationis maid anent macking of wappinschawis, war all assemblit in the Linkis of this burghe, and gaiwe thair mustering thair, in hagbuttis, corslettis, pick, spear, jack, knappiskaa, twa-handit sword, halbertis, and dens aixis, ilk persone armit thairwith, according to his qualitie, the quarter rollis of the inhabitantis of this burghe, seuerallie be the baillies of the quarter callit, ilk persone quhow he wes armit nottit, the absentes wrettin and vnlawit, thairefter put in ordour and discipline be the magistratis and commanderis appoyntit, the hagbutteris be thameselffis, the spearmen and pickmen with sic as careis corslettis be thameselffis, sic as had tua-handit swordis about the tua antsingzies and townis cullouris, sic as had halbertis and dens aixis be thameselffis, thairefter the inhabitantis of Futtie with thair armour; and being put in this ordour, the craftismen pinsellis, quhilk war fourtene in number, are placeit in ane truipt in the fute of the companie, ane little befoir the inhabitantis of Futty, burgessis and craftismen, promiscue, gangand in ordour as they war commandit, the haill hagbutteris being dewydit in tua equall pairtis, the ane halff passand first, followit thame the halff of the spearmen and pickmen, the vther halff of the saidis hagbutteris, nixt thame ane sufficient number of spearmen and pickmen, with sic as had halbertis and dens aixis, and in the end and taill the haill inhabitantis of Futtie, and being put in this ordour, vnder discipline and commanderis, come furth of the saidis Linkis the lang gett on the north syd of the Castellget port, comeing doun the Gallowget and Brodget to the Castellgit, in

2nd Sept., 1611.

ordour as is aboue wrettin, sum little forme of skirmishing maid be the hagbutteris, the ane halff againis the vther, betuixt the croces, proclamatioun was maid at the mercat croce that the haill inhabitantis of this burght, fensible persones, burgessis, craftismen, baith frie and vnfrie, suld be, vpon the nixt warning and advertisement to be maid to thame be the drume, at command of the magistratis, be reddie prepairit in thair armour, sufficientlie armit, ilk persone be himselff, with hagbutt, corslet, pick, spear, jack, knapiskaa, tua-handit sword, halbert, and dens aix, according to the qualitie of the persone, and that they suld giwe thair conscience and aithe that thair armour was thair awin, and nocht borrowit, ilk man vnder the pane of twentie pundis failzeing heirin, and swa war dismisset.

7th January, 1612.

The said day, the haill toun being convenit this day in their heid court, in a full number, the absenttis being convict, it wes thocht meitt and expedient be the prowest, baillies, magistrattis, and haill communitie, als weell merchandis, burgessis of gild, as craftismen, to liberat and frie them of their great burding, fascherie, and truble that thai do susteine throche iniquitie of this present tyme, in daylie and nichtlie watching, walking, and warding of sic personis as ar presentlie committit in ward within the tolbuithe of the samyn, be wertew of letteres of caption, and for awoiding of the continewall watching heirefter, not onlie of thame, bot of all vtheris quhilk salbe thairin put in ward, and the mair frequent number that salbe heireftir committit thairin be the commissioun grantit to the justices of pace, and eschewing of sic damage, skaithe, and entres that may fall wpoun this burgh, gif ony escaipe furthe of the said tolbuithe, being committit in ward thairin in ony tyme cuming, that not only the wark of the bulwark, being ane necessarie wark, bot all vther commoun warkis of this burghe, sall cease ; and be reasoun of the necessitie of ane ward and jealhous for resett of his Maiesties rebellis, and all sic transgressours of his lawis as salbe input thairin, salbe first begun to be biggit and erectit, and that with all convenient diligence, but forder delay, and to this effect that sic of the patrimonie and commoun good of this burghe, (his Maiestie's burrow maillis, townes stipandiaris, ministers, reddaris, maisteris of gramer and sange schooles, being payit, with the vther necessar adois concerning the town defrayit,) the sowme of aucht hundreth pundis, pre-

sentlie to foir at the heiring of the comptis of the last thesaurer and deane of gild, the yeir preceding, and sic as may be haid this yeir, and the yeir subsequent, during the tyme of the building theroff, and ay and quhilk the same be ane wark sufficientlie accomplishit and compleit, be bestowit vpoun the furnesing of materiallis and building of the said ward and jealhous, and to na vther use; and quhen thair inlaikis and wanttis ony soumes necessarie for the building therof, sic as the commoun good, quhilk salbe fund frie at the hearing of the townes comptis, vnbestouit as said is at the yeiris end, can not afford, the haill toun, convenit as said is, baillie, burgessis, and craftismen, without ony oppositioun or contradictioun, wes contentit, consentit, and agreit, as the necessitie of the wark requyrit to be stentit for sic soumes as salbe thocht meit to be imposit vpoun thame for that effect, and that thair salbe stentaris chosen for that caus, be thair consentis, as the necessitie of the said wark crawit, to set doun sic sowmes as salbe thocht meitt and expedient to be imposit vpone thame, and to mak ane stent roll theirwpoun, ilk persone to pay his part of the stent, according to the stent roll, to be set doun be the taxtaris to be chosen as said is. 7th January 1612.

10*th July*, 1612.

The said day, Alexander Rutherfurd, provest, desyrit the toun, convenit this day, to be in redines to giwe thair musturing and wappinschawing on the Linkis, sufficientlie furneishit in thair armour, ilk abill and fensibill persone, burges of gild, craftisman, and inhabitant within this burgh, within twentie-four houris nixt efter that they salbe chargit to that effect be the sound of the drum, lykeas other burrowis of this realme hes gevin thair musturing and wappinschawing, for obedience to the actis of parliament maid for haulding of wappinschawingis twyse ilk yeir; with intimatioun to sic as salbe absent fra the said musturing and wappinschawing, vpoun the day appoyntit for the same be the sound of the drume, sufficiently armit according to the actis of parliament, that he sall incure the vnlaw thairin specifeit.

17*th July*, 1612.

The quhilk day, the inhabitantis of the said burghe, fensibill personis, alsweill onfrie as frie, at command of the magistrattis, and for obedience to his Maiesties proclamatioun maid in anno 1607, and satisfeing of the actis of parliament maid anent haulding and hawing of wapinschawingis

17th July, 1612.

twise ilk yeir, and for that the regall townis besoutht this burght hes alreadie maid thair wapinschawingis, wer convenit and assemblit vpoun the commoun Linkis of this burght, and thair being assemblit in armies, the roll of the haill inhabitantis, alsweill of onfree as free, ilk quarter be itselff callit, the absentes notit, to be poyndit for thair absence according to the saidis actis of parliament and proclamatioun, and euerie mannis armour that wes present, quhow he wes armit, giff sufficientlie or nocht, notit, thay war put in gud aray and ordour be appoyntment of the magistratis, and sic as wer appoyntit be thame to be commanderis and sergeandis for ordouring of thame, and fra the said Linkis in ordour, cuming in the long gett benortht the toun, enterit in at the Gallowgett port, and in ordour, and doun allonghouse the haill toun to the mercat place and croce, in the quhilk, as the maist patent and publict place, the tua townis anzangzes, the ane borne be Mr. Thomas Mengzeis, the vther be Alex^r. Rutherfurd, eldest sone to Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, being castin in forme, and according to the custume, the pik and spearmen standing in twa partis, as in twa seuerall distinct places [ ], in the middes a gryt space left for the hagbutteris, thair wes shuting of hagbuttis, and geving of fyre be the space of halff ane hour, thaireftir they war dimissit, the ane [half] of the hagbuttis convoying the berar to his lugeing with shuting, the vther halff of thame the vther enzeingze berar in lyk maner: twa drummis, na craftisman pinsall sufferit to be borne, bot onlie the towne colouris.

7th October, 1612.

The said day, the baillies and counsell admittit Agnes Jamesoun, spous to Patrik Jack, indwellar in this burgh, present vexed and deseased with the seiknes of leprosie, to hawe hir residence and ludging within the almes and seikhous betuixt the tounis, nochtwithstanding scho be not borne and bred within this burght, prowyding that scho haue no pairt of the propertie and rent belanging thairto, being ane extranear, bot onlie hir remaneing thair, and that vpoun consideratioun that hir husband and bairnes haid left hir, and being expellit furth of this toun, as ane not meit to dwell within the samen, haid no kynd of ludging to ly in, meat nor drink, bot sic as scho may seik of the charitie of guid christianes.

3rd December, 1612.

The quhilk day, Alexander Gordoune, sone to Maister Willeame Gor-

doune, commissar of Murray; Alexander Gordoun, sone to James Gordoune of Lesmoir; Johnne Innes, sone to Alexander Innes of Coltis; Johne Johnestoune, sone to Robert Johnestoune at Kayesmylne; Hew Cummyng, sone to vmquhill Alex^r. Cummyng of Culter; and Willeame Fraser, sone to [ ] Fraser of [ ] wer accusit this day be Alexander Rutherfurd, prouest, for the great enormities, disordour, and abuse done and committit be thame and thair associat scollaris within the grammer, sang schuill, and writing schuillis of this burghe, in tacking of the said sang schuiil, vpoune the first day of this instant December, lang befoir the superstitious tyme of yuill, against the laudabill actis and statutis maid thairanent obefoir, nochtwithstanding that souirtie wes found be thame that thay sould not tack the saidis scuillis at that tyme, nor na vther tyme of the year, and that thay sould observe gude ordour and discipline within the saidis schuillis, lykwayis for wearing of gunes and schoitting tharwith, alsuell on the nicht as on the day, and for great deidis of oppressioune and ryottis, comittit be thame sen the first day of December, aganis diueris nichtbouris of this burghe, in cumeing to thair houssis, and bracking vp thair durris and windowis, and maisterfullie away tacking of thair foullis, pultrie, breid, and vivaris, and als for tacking, at thair awin hand, of fewall and vivaris cumeing to this burghe and mercat thairof, oppressing thairby his haill Maiesties leiges, and committing of money vther deidis of oppressioun within this burghe, notourlie knawin and tryit; thay thus being accusit, confessit the said accusatioune to be of treuth, and thairanent patt thame in the will of the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burghe, to vnderly sick punishment as sould be injoynit be thame, for committing of the saidis enormities and deidis of wrang, and Alexander Gordoune of Cluny become cautioun and souirtie to enter and present the said Alex^r. Gordoune, sone to the said Maister Willeame; the said Alexander Gordoune, sone to the said James Gordoune of Lesmoir; the said Johnne Innes, and the said Hew Cummyng; and James Fergussoune, burges of the said burghe, become cautioune to enter and present the said Willeame Frasyr; and Maister Thomas Melvill, minister at Dyce, become cautioune for the said Johnne Johnstoun, befoir the saidis prowest and baillies, the fourt of this instant, befoir ellevin houris, thair to vnderly sick punishment as salbe enjoynit to thame for thair saidis enormities, and thay actit thame to releive thair saidis cautioneris of the haill premisses. 3rd Dec., 1612.

4th Dec., 1612.

4th December, 1612.

The said day, the provest, baillies, new and auld counsallis, with the bishop and ministrie, being convenit in the counsalhous, and aduysing quhat punishement salbe inflictit vpone the schollaris of the gramer schooll, sang schooll, and writting schooll of this burght, quha notwithstanding that thay had found cautioune befoir, that nane of thame sould tack the schooll nor repyne to the discipline of thair maisteris in tyme comeing, ilkane vnder the paine of twentie pundis, yit not obstant thairof, thay vpone the first day of December instant, had tackin the sang scuill, keippit and hauldin the same, with hagbuttis, pistollis, swordis, and lang wapynnis, till yesterday at efter nowne, that the magistratis wer compellit, be resson of the great insolencies, ryottis, and oppressionis, committit be the saidis schollaris, to tack and apprehend thame perforce out of the said school, and committ ane number of thame to waird within the tolbuith of this burghe, quhill ordour sould be put to thame for thair saidis insolencies ; efter reassoning and mature deliberatioune, taking in the said mater, thay all in ane voyce fand, vottit, concludit, and ordanit, that the cautionaris of euerie ane of the saidis schollaris that hes takin the scuill salbe callit and convenit befoir the prouest and baillies of this burghe, to heir and sie thameselffis decernit to haue incurrit the said pane and vnlaw of twentie pundis for ilk schollar, that hes contravenit the said act of cautionarie, and decreit recoverit aganis thame thairfoir, and the said paine to be preceislie vpliftit of ilkane of the cautionaris, and applyit to the commoun weill of this burghe, and repairing of skaithe and losse sustenit be this burght and nichtbouris thairof, be the tacking of the said scuill; and lykwayis, concludit and ordanit, that sa mony of the schollaris that has tackin the scuill, viz.: Alexander Gordoune, sone to Mr. Willeame Gordoune of Tulligreig; Alexander Gordoune, sone to James Gordoune of Lesmoir; Johnne Innes, sone to Alexander Innes of Coltis ; Hew Cummyng, brother to the Laird of Culter; John Johnstoun, sone to Robert Johnstoun at Kayesmylne; Willeame Frasyr, sone to [ ] Frasyr off [ ]; Thomas and George Gordounes, brether to the Laird of Cluny; Willeame Chalmer, sone to [ ] Chalmer of Balnacraig; Willeame Settoun, sone to vmquhill Mr. Alexander Settoun; Johnne Forbes, son to the pryoir of Monymusk; Willeame Leslie, son to vmquhill George Leslie, burges of Abirdene ; Johnne Irving, sone to vmquhill Gilbert

Irving of Collairlie; James Ogilvy, son to Willeame Ogilvy of Baldewy; Alexander Cruikschank, sone to Patrik Cruikschank in Ardiffrie; Alex^r. Norie, sone to vmquhill Willeame Norie of that Ilk; Alexander Forbes, sone to Alexander Forbes of Feingzes; Johnne Meldrum, sone to [ ] Meldrum of [ ]; James Cambell, sone to the Commissar of Invernes; Alexander Irving, sone to Willeame Irving in the Hirne; Robert Farquharsone, sone to Johne Farquharsone of Inverchald; salbe presently excludit and put furth of all the scuillis of this burghe, and nevir ane of thame to be admittit nor ressauit in ony schuill or colledge of this burghe in any tyme heirefter; and that cautioun be found be ilkane of the saidis rebellious scholleris, that this burghe, and the haill inhabitantis thairoff, salbe harmles and skaithles of thame, and ilkane of thame, and on nawayis to be trublit nor molestit in thair bodies or goodis, be any of the saidis scholleris, in any tyme comeing, vtherwayis nor be ordour of law, vnder the paine of fourtie pundis to be payit for ilkane of the saidis scholleris contraveinand the premisses; conforme to the quhilk ordinance, Alexander Gordoune of Cluny, renunceand his awin jurisdictioun in this case, become actit and obligit cautionar and souirtie for the saidis Alexander Gordoune, sone to the said M^r. Willeame Gordoune; the said Alexander Gordoune, sone to the Laird of Lesmoir; Johnne Innes, sone to Alexander Innes of Coltis; and Hew Cummyng, brother to the Laird of Culter, four of the saidis scholleris that tuick the schuill, that this burghe, and haill inhabitantis thairof, salbe frie, harmles, and skaithles of the samen four scholleris, and ilkane of thame, and sall nawayeis be trublit nor molestit be thame, nor any of thame, in thair bodies or guidis, in time cuming, vtherwayis nor be ordour of law and justice, vnder the said paine of fourtie pundis, to be payit be the said cautioner for ilkane of the saidis persones contraveinand, *toties quoties.* And the saidis scholleris promessit to releive thair saidis cautionaris of the premessis, and of all that may follow thairin. And siclyk, Maister Duncane Forbes of Balnagask, become actit cautionar and souirtie for the said Johne Johnestoun, sone to the said Robert Johnestoun at Kayesmylne, that this burghe, and haill inhabitantis thairof, salbe harmles and skaithles of the said Johne, and on trublit or molestit be him in tyme comeing, vtherwayis nor be law, vnder the pane of ane hundreth pundis, and the said Johnne promesit to releive the said Maister Duncane, his cautionar.

4th De
1612

th Dec., 1612.

The said day, Alexander Gordoune of Cluny, enterit Alexander Gordoune, sone to Mr. Willeame Gordoune of Tulligreig; Alexander Gordoune, sone to the Laird of Lesmoir; Johnne Innes, sone to Alexander Innes of Coltis; and Hew Cummyng, brother to the Laird of Culter, in presens of the provest, baillies, and counsall of this burghe; as lykwayis, Mr. Thomas Meluell, minister at Dyce, enterit Johne Johnstoun, sone to Rohert Johnstoun at Kayesmylne, as thay that become cautioun for thair entrie to this day, that ordour micht be put to thame be the counsall, of their insolencie in tacking of the scuill, and thairon askit instrumentis.

The said day, the provest, baillies, and counsall, reassoning anent the ordour to be taken be the maisteris of schuillis of this burghe, for repressing and stencheing in tyme comeing of the insolencies and disordouris that fallis out almaist yeirlie within this burghe, be tacking of the schuill about the superstitious tyme of yuill, quhilk hes cheiflie proceidit be the slaknes of the maisteris in exerceising discipline on thair schollaris, contenewis the dounesetting of the said ordour till the counsall be forder aduysit, and in the meane tyme Gilbert Leslie, maister of the writting scuill, being present, promessit for his pairt to be comptabill and answerabill to the magistrattis and counsall for all his schollaris that ar presentlie within his scuill, that thay sall keip and observe guid ordour, and be obedient to the discipline in tyme cumeing, and to refound sick indempnitie and skayth as the toune sall ressaue be any of his present schollaris, and as for sick schollaris as salhappin him heirefter to ressaue in his scuill, he promessit nocht to ressaue any within the samen fra this day furthe, till first thay find cautioun, in sick forme as salbe injoynit to thame be the counsall, vnder the paine of deprivatioun of him of his office, incace he failzie heiron.

5th December, 1612.

The said day, Patrick Gordoune of Birsmoir being accusit for trubling of this burght, and bracking of his Maiesties peace this day, in drawing of ane sword, and persewing thairwith Gilbert Leslie, maister of the writting schuill of this burghe, vpone the kingis hie streitt, and giwing furthe dyveris and sindrie straikis at the said Gilbert, the said Patrick being personallie present, graunted the drawing of his sword to the said Gilbert,

and persewing him thairwith, and thairanent referrit himselff in the will of the provest, baillies, and counsall, quhairfoir he was convict and put in amerciament of court, to forbear in tyme comeing, and to amend as law will; and the said Patrick was ordanit to find cautioun for keiping of his Maiesties peace in tyme cummyng, and to satisfie for the said trublance, according to the modificatioune of the counsall; conforme to the quhilk, Alexander Gordoune, younger, at Kethokismylne, burges of this said burghe, become cautionar for the said Patrik to the effect forsaid, and the said Patrick become actit to releive his said cautioner. 5th Dec., 1612.

Eodem die.

The said day, Gilbert Leslie maid faith in judgement that he dreadis Patrik Gordoun of Birsmoir bodelie harme, and thairfoir craveit law souirtie of him, and thairfoir the provest and baillies ordanis the said Patrik to find law souirtie to the said Gilbert, for his indempnitie in his bodie and guidis in tyme cumeing, vnder the pane of fyve hundreth merkis; according to the quhilk, Alexander Gordoune, younger at Kethokismylne, burges of the said burghe, become actit cautiouner, souirtie, and law burrowis for the said Patrik, that the said Gilbert Leslie salbe harmeles and skaitheles, his bodie and guidis, and on nawayis to be trublit be him, nor na vtheris quhome he may stop or lat, directlie or indirectlie, in tyme comeing, vtherwayis nor be ordour of law and justice, vnder the said paine of fyve hundreth merkis; and the said Patrik become actit to releive his said cautioner.

23*rd December*, 1612.

The said day, the provest, baillies, counsell, bischope, and ministerie, being convenit and assemblit within the counsellhous, remembering that thair hes beine dyverse and guid statutes maid for repressing of the disordour and enormitie vseit be the scholaris of the grammer, sang, and wreting schuillis of this burghe, in tacking and haulding of the schuillis afoir the superstitious tyme of yuill, tacking of wiueris, not onlie fra nichtbouris, bot fra sic as wer comyng to this burghe and mercat therof to sell the samen, and doing of vther gryt skaith the tyme of the tacking and haulding of the schuillis, quhilk hes proceidit and dois proceid of the negligence of the maisteris of the saidis schuillis, being remiss in discipline, correcting, and chastising of sic insolent scholares, quhais office and

23rd Dec., 1612.

dewtie is, quhen any disordourit scholaris within thair schuillis attemptis any sic disordour, quhairoff their is no sic within na burghe in this realme, to puneische the committaris and attemptaris of sic deidis most seveirlie, quhilk statutes hes not beine obtemperit nor obeyit be the saidis maisteris and scholaris heirtofoir; thairfoir to the effect that no sic disordour shalbe heirefter within the schuillis of this burghe, the prouest, bailleis, and counsell, with consent of the bischope and ministerie, in presence of Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, maister of the grammer schuill, Patrick Dauidsoun, maister of the sang schuill, and Gilbert Leslie, maister of the wretting schuill of this burghe, statute, dewysit, and ordanit, that the saidis maisteris of the saidis thrie schuillis, and thair successouris, shalbe answerabill in all tyme cummyng for thair saidis scholaris and schuillis, and for all disordour that salbe thairin, or in ony of the saidis schuillis about the said superstitious tyme of yuill, in tacking and haulding of thair saidis schuillis, or any of thame, be thair saidis scholaris; and incace any skaith be done be ony of thair saidis scholaris, ather in building, edifice of the schuillis, or to ony nichtbouris of this burghe, or to personis duelling to landward, that the saidis maisteris salbe answerabill for thair awin scholaris, and refound the skaith done to the edifice or persones wrangit be the saidis scholaris, ather be way of deid or tacking of thair guidis and geir.

8th February, 1613.

The said day, the provest, baillies, new and auld counsallis eftir following, they ar to say, Alexander Rutherfurd, provest; Mr. Alexander Cullen, Willeame Gray, Thomas Forbes, Alexander Jaffray, baillies; Mr. Gilbert Gray, Willeame Lowsoune, Robert Johnestoune, George Nicolsoune, Henrie Forbes, Thomas Cullen, Dauid Cargill, George Ricard, Mr. Willeam Moir, Alexander Kempt, vnderstanding that Johnne Gordoune, brother to Patrick Gordoune of Birsmoir, Francis Murray, brother to the Laird of Cowbairdie, with sum vtheris thair complices, hes this day cum to this burgh of sett purpos and prouisioun, and maist proudlie in contempt of law and iustice hes maist creuallie and vnmercifullie persewit Gilbert Leslie, reidar, and maister of the writing schoill of this burgh, of his lyiff, on the kingis hie streitt of this burghe, at the kirk styill, and hes gewin him many bluidie and best straikis, with durkis and battounes, in dyueris pairtis of his bodie, to the great effusioune of his bloode, and

danger of his lyiff, thairfor ordaines ane complaint to be maid in name of the towne, and of the said Gilbert, to his Maiesties secret counsall, and letteris to be raisit thairone, and the townis charges for chargeing the saidis Patrick Gordoune, Johnne Godoun, Francis Murray, and thair complices, befoir his Maiesties secreit counsall to ansuer for the said oppressioun, and ordaines the same to be followit out and prosequate on the townis charges to the vttermost, till redres be had of the said oppressioun. 8th Feb., 1613.

10*th February*, 1613.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and counsell ordanis Thomas Cullen, deane of gild, to deburse ane angill nobill, to be send to Edinburgh to James Prymrois, clerk of privie consell, for raising letteris to charge Patrick Gordoun of Birsmoir, Johne Gordoune, his bruther, James and Frances Murrayes, sones to the Laird of Cubardie, and Angous Grant, serviture to the Laird of Cluny, to compeir befoir the lordis of privie counsall, to ansuer for the hurting and wounding of Gilbert Leslie, reidar, and maister of the wreitting schuill of this burgh, vpon the aucht of Februar instant, with the sowme of tuentie-four s. to be send to the said James Prymrois' serwand, quhilkis soumes shalbe allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

19*th February*, 1613.

The said day, the baillies, new and auld counsellis, ordanit Thomas Cullen, deane of gild, to deburse the sowme of aucht pundis, vsuall money of this realme, to Robert Merser, messinger, to charge and summond Patrick Gordoun of Birsmoir, Johne Morgyne, Johne Gordoun, brother to the said Patrick, James and Frances Murrayes, sones to the Laird of Cowbairdie, and Angous Grant, servitour to the Laird of Cluny, to compeir befoir the lordis of secreit counsell, vpon the [ ] day of Merche nixt to cum, to answer to the complaynt of Gilbert Leslie, reidar, and maister of the wreitting school of this burgh, and of the prowest and baillies, for thair entress, according to the summoundis raisit thairwpoun, and that the said messinger vse the said summoundis at sic places and in sic forme as he shalbe directit, with all convenient diligence, quhilk sowme shalbe allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

19th Feb., 1613.

Eodem die.

The said day, the baillies, new and auld counsellis, considering that Alexander Rutherfurd, prowest, vpon the tent day of Februar instant, wes chosin commissioner for this burgh, to compeir befoir the lordis of privie counsell at Edinburgh, vpon the fourt day of Merche nixt to cum, to answer with the remanent commissioneris of burrowis, summoundit to the foirsaid fourt day of Merche, to compeir befoir the saidis lordis, to heir and sie decreit and sentence gewin aganis the haill burrowis of this realme, decerning thame to mack payment to Maister Patrick Gordoun, for himselff and in name and behalff of Dauid Gray, borne in Prussia, of the soume of sex hundreth pundis, sterling money, for the expenssis bestowit be thame in the persute and prosecutioun of ane actioun aganis Starcovius, ane German, for devulgating and setting out of ane infamous lybell and buik, to the ignominie and reproche of this haill natioun, for the quhilk the said Starcovious was execute to the deathe, the prowest and present baillies of this burgh being chargit to compeir befoir the saidis lordis of privie counsell, the said fourt day of Merch, to the effect aboue specifeit, the said Alex^r^ Rutherfuird is presentlie grytumlie deseasit and vnabill to travell, for keiping of the said dyett, without danger of his lyiff; and thairwith remembering that Patrick Gordoun of Birsmoir, Johne Morgyne, Johne Gordoun, brother to the said Patrick, James and Frances Murrayes, sones to the Laird of Cowbairdie, and Angous Grant, seruitour to the Laird of Cluny, ar to be summoundit at the instance of Gilbert Leslie, reidar, and maister of the wreitting schuill of this burgh, and at the instance of the prowest and baillies thairof, for thair entress, to compeir befoir the saidis lordis of privie counsell, the [ ] day of the said moneth of Merche, to answer to thair complaynt gewin in aganis the said Patrick Gordoun, and vtheris personis aboue namit, his complices, for persewing, hurting, invading, and bluid drawing of the said Gilbert Leslie, in manner specifeit in the said summoundis, quhilk dyett lykwayes man be keipit and followit out befoir the saidis lordis of privie counsell, be the said Gilbert Leslie, and the prowest and baillies of this burgh, be ressoun of the gryt indemnitie done to thair commoun servand, and to the haill towne, as ane matter tuitching this burgh heichlie, gif tymous remeid be not provydit be the saidis lordis, to terrefie otheris to committ the lyk in tyme cummyng; thairfoir the baillies, new and auld counsellis, electit,

nominat, and chewsit Maister Alexander Cullen and Thomas Forbes, tua present baillies, commissioneris for this burgh, to keep bayth the saidis dyettis befoir the saidis lordis of secreit counsell, and hes ordanit and ordanis the sowme of twa hundreth pundis to be gewin to thame, to mack thair charges and expenssis for keiping of bayth the saidis dyettis, and ane commissioun to be gewin to thame for keiping of the first dyett anent Starcovious, vnder the seall of caus of this burgh, and subscrivit be the commoun clerk, and the said sowme of twa hundreth pundis to be payit to thame be Alexander Andersoun, lait thesaurer, of the restis fund auchtand be him to the toun at the fute of his thesaurar comptis, and to be refoundit and fillit vp againe be George Ricard, present thesaurar, sieing the foirsaidis restis ar mortifiet to the bigging of ane ward hous. 19th Feb. 1613.

24th February, 1613.

The quhilk day, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall of the said burght, compeirit personallie ane honorable man, Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, and voluntarlie of his awin consent tackand the burdine vpon him for Patrick Gordoun of Birsmoir, Johne Gordoun, his brither germane, and James Murray, sone to the laird of Cowbairdie, submittis for the saidis persones, for quhome he tackis the burdine, to the determinatioun and censure of the prouest, baillies, and counsell of this burgh, quhat amendis and satisfactioun salbe maid to the saidis personis, in honouris sowmes of money and geir to the said burgh of Aberdene, and to Gilbert Leslie, thair commoun serwand, pairtie hurt, for the wrang and indignitie done be the said Johne Gordoun and James Murray to the said Gilbert Leslie, and to the said toun of Aberdene, be thair cumming to this burght vpon the aucht day of Februar instant, and wounding and hurting the said Gilbert in his heid and left hand, to the great effusione of his blude, as also concerning the wrang done be the said Patrick Gordoun, in persewing the said Gilbert Leslie of befoir within this burght, with ane drawn sword, vpon the [ ] day of December last bypast; and quhatsumever amendis in honour, and sowmes of money, the said prouest, baillies, and counsell decernis to be maid and payit be the saidis thrie persones, for the caussis aboue writtin, the said Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, tackand the burdine on him for thame, as said is, bindis and obleissis him to caus thame, and ilk ane of thame, obey, fulfill, and satisfie the same in all poyntis; lykas instantlie, Willeame Gordoun, younger,

4th Feb., 1613.

burges of the said burgh, become actit cautionar, sourtie, and full dettour, for and with the said Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, coniunctlie and seuerallie, that the foirsaidis persones, for whome he tackis the burdine, sall satisfie in honour and sowmes of money, according to the determinatioun of the saidis prouest, baillies, and counsall, baith to the toune and to the said Gilbert Leslie, vnder the pane of ane thowsand pundis [ ] money to be payit be the said Alexander Gordoun, and his said cautionar, coniunctlie and seuerallie, to the said toun of Aberdene, incace the saidis persones, or ony of thame, feilzie in performing any poynt of the premissis; and the said Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, renunceand his awin jurisdictioun in this cace, become actit for him, his airis, executouris, and assigneis, to releive the said Willeam Gordoun, his cautionar forsaid, of the premisses, and of all that may follow thairon; lykas also compeirit personallie the said Patrick Gordoun of Birsmoir, and voluntarlie of his awin consent, renunceand his awin jurisdictioun in this cace, become actit and obleist for himselff, and as cautionar and souertie for the said Johne Gordoune, his brother germane, and for the said James Murray, that the said Gilbert Leslie, and all inhabitantis within this burgh, salbe frie, harmeles, and skaythles in thair bodies and goodis in tyme cuming, of the saidis Patrick Gordoun, Johne Gordoun, and James Murray, and sal nowayes be trublit nor molestit be thame in ony tyme cuming, vtherwayes nor be ordour of law and justice, for any occasioun bygane, preceiding the dait heirof, resulting vpon the tacking of the grammer schooll, or hurting of the said Gilbert Leslie, vnder the pane of ane thowsand merkis money foirsaid, to be payit be the said Patrik to the deane of gild of this burghe, incace the saidis persones, or ony of thame, or ony quhome thay may stop or latt, contravene thir premissis. A. Gordone of Cluny, vith my hand; P. Gordoun of Birsmoir, v$^{t.}$ my hand; W$^{m.}$ Gordoune, v$^{t.}$ my hand.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, anent the submissioun maid be Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, quha tacking the burdine vpon him for Patrik Gordoun of Birsmoir, Johne Gordoun, his brother-germane, and James Murray, sone to the Laird of Cowbairdie, submittit for the saidis persones to the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, quhat sort of amendis and satisfaction suld be maid be thame for thair wrang and indignitie done to

the toune, and to Gilbert Leslie, thair commoun serwand, in hurting and wounding of the said Gilbert in maner specifieit in the submissioun maid thairanent, inactit in the bookes of this auditorie, of the dait of thir presentis, quhairanent the prowest, baillies, new and auld counsalles of the said burgh, advysing, and considering that the said Alexander Gordoun of Cluny hes voluntarlie submittit and tackin the burdine on him for the forsaidis persones, and hes simplie referrit himselff for thame to the censure and determinatioun of the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, concerning the wrang foresaid; thairfor, be reasone of the said Alexander Gordoun, his willing mynd and inclinatioun to satisfie both the toune and the said Gilbert Leslie, for the wrang forsaid, thay all in ane voce decerne and ordane the said Patrik Gordoun of Birsmoir, for himselff, and in name of the saidis Johne Gordoun, and James Murray, to content and pay the soume of twa hundreth merkis of vnlaw, the ane halff to be payit to the deane of gild of the said burgh, to be applyit vpoun the commoun effairis thairof, and the other halff to the said Gilbert Leslie, pairtie hurt; as lykwayes, they decerne and ordane the saidis Patrik Gordoun, Johne Gordoun, and James Murray, to cum to the auld kirk of this burgh, on ane preiching day, and thair immediatlie efter the ending of the sermone, befoir the blessing, to ryis out of thair seat in the Ruid loft, and compear befoir the pulpitt, and thair in all humilitie, ilkane seuerallie efter vther, crawe first God pardoun and forgiwenes for thair said wrang done to the toune and to the said Gilbert Leslie; and nixt to turne thame selffis towardis the magistrattis dask, and in all humilitie confes thair offence done to the toune and to the said Gilbert, and crawe the prowest, baillies, counsall, and haill toune pardoun thairfoir; and last, to crawe the said Gilbert Leslie, quhome thay hurt, pardoun and forgiwenes for the same, schak handis with him, and promeis newer to do the lyk in tyme cumming. 24th Feb. 1613.

4th September, 1613.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsell ordanis publicatioun to be maid instantlie, be the drum passand throw the haill rowis of the town, chargeing, in his Maiesties name and authoritie, and in name of the prowest and baillies of this burgh, all the inhabitantis thairof, fensibile men, baith fre and vnfre, to convene and assembill thameselffis at the mercat croce of this burght, vpon Monunday nixt, the sext of September

th Sept., 1613.

instant, at ten houris befoir noone, in thair best armour, with muskattis, hagbuttis, pickis, and corslettis, and to accompanie and follow thair magistrattis thairfra to the Linkis, to giwe thair mustures and vappinschaw according to his Maiesties actis of parliament maid thairanent, with certificatioun to sic as salbe absent, or that sal not cum sufficiently armit, and mack faith that the armour they bring with thame is thair awin, they sall pey the vnlaw of ten pundis to the dene of gild vnforgiwan; and siclyk chargeing that nane presome nor tack vpone hand to transgress or contravene the ordour injoyned, and to be injoyned to thame be the magistrat, concerning the forme of thair mustures and ranking, bot that they, in all dewtifull obedience, conforme thame selffis thairto, and nawayes tack any place, charge, or commandment vpone thame, except be speciall appoyntment and directioun of the magistratt, vnder the pane to be pursuvit and punischeit as disobeyaris of the command of thair lawfull magistratt, disturbaris of his Maiesties peace, and trublaris and impedaris of the going fordward of the wappinschaw; conform to the quhilk ordinance, Androw Inglis drumer past with the drum throw the haill streitis of the toun, and maid publicatioun and intimatioun of the ordinance aboue wrettin.

12*th January*, 1614.

The quhilk day, maister Alexander Cullan, gawe in and exhibit in presence of the prowest and baillies and counsall, ane gift of the vicarage of Sanct Nicolas kirk of Aberdene, with all and sindrie the fruictis, oblationes, and rentis thairof, vsit and wount, gewin be vmquill Willeame Gordoun, Bischop of Aberdene, with consent of the deane and chapture therof, to the college of the chaplenis of the said Sanct Nicolas kirk and thair successouris, for sustentatioun of ane prowest to serue perpetuallie in the said kirk, to be callit in all tyme thairefter an prowestrie, dated at Aberdene, 28th Marche, 1540, subcrywit be the said bischop, deane, and chapture, and gewin vnder thair seallis, and subscriptioune of maister Johne Gibsoun, notar publict, thair clerk; and desyrit the said mortificatioun to be put amongis the townis euidentis, as ane euident speciallie belanging to the towne, quhilk euident wes delywerit to the clerk to the effect forsaid.

1*st February*, 1615.

The said day, the baillies and counsellis, for many good considerationis

and caussis moweing thame, thocht it maist expedient and necessar that ane wardhous be biggit within the tolbuith, in the east end thairof, four woult heicht fra the ground vnto the ruiff of the tolbuith, in sic substantious, decent, and cumlie forme, as salbe dewyseit, and that sa convenientlie and soone as possibillie it may be. 1st February, 1615.

29th March, 1615.

The said day, the baillies, new and auld counsellis, being convenit in the counselhous, maister Alex^r^. Cullen, Willeame Gray, baillies, maister Thomas Mengzeis, Robert Johnstoun, Dauid Cargill, and Andro Watsoun, wricht, quha wer nominat obefoir be the counsell to consult and advyse vpon the bigging of the ward hous in the eist end of the tolbuith, reportit to the counsell that they haid convenit with Thomas Watsoun, measoun, and adwyseit vpon the forme and bigging of the said wardhous, and haid condiscendit that the same suld be biggit fyue woult hicht with ane flat forme and battelling, and ane found devysit for ane stepill, with ane passage to the knok and battelling be itselff, as at lenght is set doun in a minute of contract this day red in counsell thairupoun, and that for the sowme of fyue thousand merkis *in omnibus*, the said Thomas finding lyme, stane, and all vther materiallis necessar to the wark except onlie tymber to be centries, develing, irne, lead, and ane wyndes to be furneist be the toune, and the said sowme to be payit to him at sic termes and in sic maner as they shuld aggrie thairupoun, and to big the same twa woult heicht befoir Michaelmes nixt, and to compleit and perfyite the haill wark befoir Mertimes j^m^ vi^c^ and sexteine yeiris, in maner specifeit in the said contract: Quhairwith the saidis new and auld counsellies wer content, and thocht the said wark most necessar to be done, and referrit to the saidis commissioneris or the maist pairt of thame, to sett doun the dayis of payment of the said sowme, and to aggrie quhat securitie and cautioun the said Thomas sall gieve to the toune for performing of his pairt, and to report agane to the counsell.

Eodem die.

The samen day, the baillies, new and auld counsellis, being convenit in S. Nicolas kirk of this burgh, thocht meit and expedient, devysit and ordanit, for decoratioun of the kirk, that their salbe ane loft biggit be the maister of kirk wark in the south syd of the said kirk, aboue the wed-

29th March, 1615. ding kirk dur, in decent and commodious forme, on the kirkis chargis, for serwing and easing of the nichtbors of the toun, and the chargis to be deburst thairon salbe allowit to the said maister of wark in his comptis.

15th June, 1615.

The said day, the baillies and counsall, with ane great pairt of the communitie, for obedience to the act of burrowis maid anent the yearlie ryding of the commoun landis of the friedome of the said burgh in all tyme bygane, passit, visiet, red, and perambulat the vtter borderis and marches of the commoun landis of the friedome of the said burgh, distinguisching the samen fra outlandis lordis landis, lyand and merchand contigue thairvnto; and first they began and tuik vp the first marche stane, as the same wes wount to be tackin vp of auld, on the south syde of the justice mylne burne, foirnent the nuick of Coullis croft, contigue to the east syde of the kingis gett callit the waine gett, passand to the brig of Dee, at ane great stane lyand on the south syde of the said get, quhilk stane wes ordanit to be helpit in the suaser mark thairof, and thairfra red in the said gett on the south east syde of the halff pennie hous, of the quhilk hous Williame Gray, baillie, tuik doune ane dovet, in takine of lauchfull interruptione, and fand the said halff pennie hous and landis, lyand on the north and northwest sydis of the said gett, to apperteine in propertie to the said towne of Aberdeine; and thairfra red furth the said wayne gett directlie, as merche of propertie of the said burgh, quhill thay come to ane vther hous laitlie biggit on the north west syde of the said gett, foirganes ane litill myir, and thair the said deane of gild maid interruptioun in maner aboue specifiet; and thairfra red in the said hie gett, as merche of propertie, to ane place quhair ane smyddie wes biggit and stuid of auld, at the edge of the stryip, quhair thay fand ane merche stane perfytelie merkit with the signe of the sauser, finding the same to be ane of the towne of Aberdeines merches of propertie; and thairfra kepand the hie gett sutherlie or thairby to Collielaw, quhair thair wes ane merche stane ordanit to be sawserit with the townes mark, seing it wes prowin and notourlie knawin that Alexander Forbes and James Cadenheid, cairteris, tuik away the merche stane that stuid thairone, and thairfra to ane great witter stane in the muir, merkit with four hollis, quhair thair wes ane kairne sett, and fra that stane to the fuird callit Leslies fuird, quhair thair is ane stane merkit with the letter P. for propertie as the towne of Aberdeine's marche,

quhilk is lykwayes the eastmost merche, devyding the landis of the barronie of Petfodellis, frome the landis of the friedome of the said burgh; and becaus the remanent merches distinguishing the said barronie from the landis of Rubislaw, Hessilheid, and vtheris landis of the friedome merchand thairwith, ar not yet perfytelie riddin or knawin, howbeit, the saidis merches ar destinctlie sett doune in wreat be contract past betuixt the towne and Gilbert Mengzes of Petfoddellis thairanent, of the dait the fyift day of Januar, the yeire of God j^{m} sex hundreth, and ten yeiris, and registrat in the townis bookis the twentie-third day of April nixt thairefter, thairfoir the ryding of that pairt of the vtter merches wes contenewit to a mair convenient occasioun, till a competent number be chosin be the counsell to meit vpoun the boundis with the said Gilbert Mengzes, for ryding, cognoscing, and cleiring of the saidis marches betuixt the towne and his said barronie; and leaving the saidis merches unridden, the towne past fra the said Leslies fuird to the dam of the Cultis, quhair thair stuid ane merche stane of auld, merkit with the said sign of the sauser; and fra the said dam of the Cults to the Blackhill of Cultis, quhair thair is ane great merche stane, havand four witter hollis, as the towne of Aberdeines marche; and thairfra direct south west or thairby, to ane great witter stane besyd Bellis wellis; and thairfra keipand the nether well heidis south west or thairby, to the heid of the den of Murthill, quhair thair is ane great sauser stane on the south syde of the myir at the heid of the said den; and fra the said marche stane lyand at the heid of the said den of Murthill, red according to the decreit pronunceit betuixt the said towne of Aberdeine on the ane pairt, and vmquill Alexander Cummyng of Culter on the vther pairt, off the dait at Aberdeine, the tent day of Marche, the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and twa yeiris, and registrat in the commissaris bookis of Aberdeine the twentie-third day of July, the samen yeir, anent the distinguishing and seperating of the landis of the friedome of the said burgh fra the said Alexander Cummyng, his landis and barronie of Culter, speciallie that pairt thairof, callit the Lastis, and Banishill; ascending fra the said stane southwest or thairby to the Weddercraig, merkit with the said signe of the sauser; and fra the said Weddercraig northeast or thairby, to ane craig on the Brunthill merkit alswa with the said signe of the sauser; and thairfra discendand doun the said hill callit the Brunthill north or thairby to ane sinck at the south syde of the reisk, at the pairt of that sinck fornent ane great craig

15th June, 1615.

15th June, 1615.

on the bray on the south syde of the said sinck, keipand and hauldand the said sinck till it ende in the burne callit the burne of Brotherfeild, at that pairt of the said burne foirnent ane great gray stane standing on ane hillock on the saidis landis of Brutherfeild, on the north syde of the said burne, distant thairfra ane halff pair of buttis or thairby; discendand doune the said burne westward, keipand the middis of the reisk, the iust equall halff thairof to be on the south syde of the said burne, quhilk sall perteine to the saidis landis of the Lastis, perteining to the said Alexander Cummyng of Culter,and the vther iust equall halff of the samen reisk to be on the north syde of the said burne, quhilkis sall apperteine to the landis of Brotherfeild and Gairdyne, of the friedome of the said burgh, till it come to the fuird of the said burne, vnder the hillock quhairon the hous standis quhilk wes biggit be vmquhill James Gordoun, and now inhabeit be Johne Gordoun, now callit the Lastis, on the north syde of the quhilk fuird the landis of Ord, perteining to the Erle Mershall, and the landis of the friedome of the said burgh meitis, and at the samen fuird the merches betuixt the said towne of Aberdeine and the laird of Culter ceassis; and thairfra to the ringand stane lying on the west syde of the medow of Brotherfeild, contigue to the bray of the Ord; and thairfra keipand the lauche betuixt the medow and the bray, quhill it come to the burne, hauldand vp the said burne, and keipand the same to the fuird foirnent the hous of Breddiauche, and thairfra hauldand vp the said burne to the roche swaill of Kynmvndie, quhill it cum to the first marche betuixt the towne and the laird of Muchall at the inver of the Blind burne quhair the same enteris in the Blackburne, quhilk Blackburne devydis the landis of the friedome of the said burgh fra the landis of Easter Kynmvndie and Auchincleche, perteining to the Erle Mershall, at that pairt of the said Blackburne quhair thair is ane great mother swayll on the south syde of the said Blackburne, direct forganes or anent the said inver; ascendand and keipand vp the said Blindburne as the same rynnis east north east or thairby, ewir keipand the sinck and the said blind burne at the south syde of the hill callit the Elrickhill, quhill it come to the heid of the said blind burne, quhair thair is ane littill moss; and thairfra lineallie throw the middis of the said littill moss, as the same is kairnit, quhill it enter in the heid of the garlett burne; and discending doune the said garlett burne east or thairby, as the samen rynnis betuixt the twa hills, quhill it come to the chopman rod, at that pairt of the said rod quhair it croces the said burne, in the

quhilk burne, at the pairt foirsaid, thair wes ane kairne sett and ane merche stane ordanit to be infixit, and to be markit with the said signe of the sauser, as the toune of Aberdeines merche; and hauldand vp the said rod quhill it cum to ane great sauser stane in ane myir on the north syid of the hill of Brimmound, quhairat thair wes ane cairne sett, finding that Johne Gordoun of Crabstoune, and his tennentis therof, had teillit, rewin out, and distroyit ane great pairt of the said chopman rod, and had earit and spurrit out be southe the samen, and the said toune of Aberdeines propertie this yeir and dveris yeiris bygane, to quhilk novatioun the said baillie maid interruptioun, and thairon tuik instrumentis; and thairfra hauldand and keipand the said chopman rod, quhill it come to ane great marche stane merkit with the letter P. for propertie, as the said towne of Aberdeines proper marche; discending thairfra east or thairby, keipand the said chopman rod quhill it come to the fuird of the goiff burne, and croceand the said burne, and keipand the said auld merche rod, stane be stane, as thay ar merkit with the said signe of the sauser, throch the croft of Wagley, till it come to ane great sauser stane, merkit with twa sausers, on the bank of Buckisburne, on the westsyd of the said burne aboue the auld dam and fuird of the samen; finding that the said Johne Gordoun and his tennentis had teillit and spurrit out ane great quantitie of land this yeir, and diveris yeiris bygane, and sawin cornes thairvpoun, outwith the said marche stanes, and auld chapman rod foirsaid, on the said towne of Aberdeines propertie; and thairfra croceand the said burne, and keipand the said gett eastward the auld dyckes of Auchmull, quhil it come to ane merche stane lyand on the northsyd of the said gett, and thairfra keipand and hauldin the hie gett to that place of the Cruiffburne, quhair thair lyes ane sauser stane on the eastsyd of the same, within ane quarter pair of buttis or thairby; and thairfra hauldand doun the said Cruiff burne quhill it enter on the watter of Done; and hauldand doun the said watter of Done quhill it come to the auld found of the dira dyck; and hauldand vp the said dira dycke southerlie, and keipand the samen till it come to the craighead; and fra the said craighead keipand doun to the said dyik till it come to the teillit landis of Cabrastoun, lineallie to ane great eardfast standand stane in the hie gett; and thairfra to the place quhair the auld Kill of Capraston stuid; and thairfra doun the lauche, east and be southen or thairby, betuixt Collesones dyck and the teillit land of Caprastoun, to the fuird aboue Peterstoun, callit the Kingis

15th June, 1615.

15th June, 1615.

fuird ; and thairfra keipand the gett to ane merche stane in the den callit Kittiebrouster, merkit with ane sauser and ane key ; and thairfra keipand the northeast gett, stane be stane, as thay ar merkit with the said sauser and key, throch the croft callit Pytilhim, in the middis of the quhilk croft thair wes fund twa merches staines, merkit with Sanct Peiteris key ; and thairfra stane be stane ouer the southend of the Spittellhill, as the samen is mercheit be stanes markit with the said sauser and key, quhill it come to the end of the Gallow slackis, and ane eardfast stane thair merkit with the said sauser and key; finding the commoun lonying quhilk wes of auld betuixt the landis of Sanct Peteris hospitall and the said towne of Aberdeines landis to be altogidder tellit and labourit be the tennentis of the said hospitall landis ; and thairfra doun the said northsyd of the great swayll to ane great stryip callit the Bantstickill burne, and doun the said Bantstickill burne quhill it enter in the salt sey.

1st June, 1615.

The said day, the baillies and counsall having hard the report maid be Thomes Mengzes and Robert Johnstoun, commissionaris nominat be the counsall to pas to the Erle Merchall, tuicheing the provyiding of ane learnit and qualefeit persone to be principall of the college of this burgh, quhilk wes this in effect, that the said Erle is weill affected to provyid ane qualefeit persone for the said place, and that his lordschip is content with anye of thir twa persones, to wit, Maister Patrik Sandis and Mr. Alexander Home, quha wes nominat to his lordschip be the saidis commissionaris, and that his lordschip desyris the baillies and counsell of this burgh to be earnest and diligent to travell with thame for thair acceptation of the said place vpoun thame, with sic possibill diligence as the necessitie of the tyme craveis, quhairwith the baillies and counsall aggriet, and thinkis any of the saidis twa persones meit and qualifiet for the said place, and thairfoir ordanis Mr. Alexander Cullen, baillie, commissionar chosin for this burgh for keiping the conventioun of burrowis at Sanct Androus, the third of July nixt, to pas immediately efter the disoluing of the said conventioun, to Edinburghe, and thair to aduyse with Mr. Thomas Nicolsone, commissionar in the said mater, and be his counsall and advyse to deall with any of thame he thinkis meitest, vpoun sic conditiounes as the said Mr. Thomas and Mr. Alexander can condiscend with the saidis persones or any of thame, and the said Mr. Alexander to hawe the sowme of fyftie merkis

to be payit to him be Mr. Willeame Moir, thesaurer, for macking his expenss to Edinburghe, by and attour the hundreth merkis appoyntit to him for macking his expenss at the said conventioun of burrowes, quhilkis sowmes salbe allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis. Persones of counsall present: Mr. Alexander Cullen, Willeame Gray, Thomas Forbes, baillies, Thomas Mengzeis, Mr. Thomas Mengzeis, George Nicolsone, Robert Johnestoun, Thomas Cullen, Mr. Johne Mortymer, Dauid Adye, Alexander Leslie, Thomas Clerk. 1st June, 1615.

21*st June*, 1615.

The baillies and counsall having aduysedlie considderit the freyndlie letter direct be maister Patrik Copland to Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, schoollmaister of this burgh, daited at Londoun the 2nd of May last, berand that gif ane learned and qualifiet persone micht be had to fill the rowme of Mr. Gilbert Gray, last principall of the college of this burgh, laitlie depairtit this lyiff, that the said Mr. Patrik, for the love and zeall he caries to the floorishching of the said college, wauld bestow twa thowsand merkis Scottis for the mantenance, at the least for a help to manteane four puir bursaris, fyftie merkis a peice per annum, and thairby desyrand the said Mr. Dauid Wedderburne to signifie that his purpose to the counsell of this burghe, and to returne to him thair answer; fand that heirby the said Mr. Patrik is most cairfull to sie the standing of the said college; and in respect thairof, ordanit ane ansuer to be send back to the said Maister Patrik, geving him hartlie thankis for his godlie intentioune and designe foirsaid, and to intreat him, gif it micht stand with his contenment, that his said provisioune micht be bestowit to the vse and behuiff of the principall and maister of the saidis college, seing thair is provisioun maid alredie for ten bursaries, and na competent provisioune as yit for principall nor maisteris, and to direct this letter with Robert Buchane, merchand, bringer of the said Mr. Patrik his letter foirsaid, with powar to the said Robert to ressaue the said twa thowsand merkis fra the said Mr. Patrik, togidder with his letter and directioun to the magistrattis and counsall of this burgh how the same salbe bestowit, the said Robert aluays finding cautioun, incais of his resset of the said sowme fra the said Mr. Patrik, that he sall mack payment thairof to the magistrattis and counsall, betuixt and Michaelmes nixt or sooner, within [ ] days efter his returne frome Londoun, to be bestowit and imployit as the said Mr Patrik sall direct be his letter.

26th July, 1615.

26th July, 1615.

The said day, the baillies, new and auld counsallis, remembering that immediately efter the deceas of Mr. Gilbert Gray, lait principall of the college of this burgh, quhilk wes in the moneth of December last bypast, they burdenit Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, maister of thair grammer schooll, to tak vpon him the teiching of the hie class of the college of this burgh, till this Lambes nixt, now instant, and to determe the studentis of the said hie class maisteris at ilk time, as also to vndergo the burding of the discipline and government of the whole college induring that tyme, least the college, for want of a maister to the said hie class, shuld altogidder hawe beine cassin lows; promeising that the said Mr. Dauid suld be gratifiet and revairdit for his paines and labours takin thairin, as ane act maid thairvpoun the first of Februar last bypast proportis; and vnderstanding that the said Mr. Dauid hes dischargit a verie honest dewitie in that employment ewerie way as aperteined, both in his teiching of the said hie class, and government of the haill college, sen the deceace of the said vmquhill Gilbert, as also in determing the studentis of the hie class maisteris, to the great contentment and satisfaction both of the studentis and of the counsell and haill towne; thairfoir, in rememberance of his painful travellis sustenit be him be this employment foirsaid about the college, they ordane the sowme of ane hundreth pundis to be giwen to the said Mr. Dauid *in omnibus*, for his gratitude and travellis foirsaidis, to be peyit to him be Mr. Willeame Moir, thesaurer, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

7th August, 1615.

The quhilk day, the inhabitantis of the said burght, fensibill persones, alsweill frie as vnfrie, at command of the magistrattis, war gatherit, assemblit, and convenit vpon the commoun Linkis of this burgh in armes, as ane day appoyntit be the magistrattis of the said burght to that effect, for giveing thair wappinschawe and musturing, and that becaus the remanent regall burghtis besouth this burght haid maid thair wappinschawis alredy, quhilk be his Maiesties actis and ordinances is ordanit to be maid at the leist aines ewerie yeir, for obedience to his Maiesties lawes, and eschewing of danger and perrell thairof, incace they haid not maid wappinschawe, nochtwithstanding that thair wes no proclamatioun in his Maiesties name be letteris, publicatioun of letteris, appoynting ony particular day for the wappinschaw, and they being convenit as said is, the

roll of the haill inhabitantis, alsweill vnfrie as frie, ilk quarter be itselff, the absentis notit to be poyndit for thair absence, according to the saidis actis of parliament and constitutionis, and ewerie manis armour that wes present, quhow he wes armit, gif sufficientlie or nocht, nottit, they wer put in guid array and ordour, be the appoyntment of the magistrattis, and sic as wes appoyntit be thame to be commanderis and serjeandis for ordouring of thame, and fra the saidis Linkis in ordour cumying in the long gett benorth the toun, entering in at the Gallowgett port, and in ordour cam doun ellangous the haill toun to the mercat place and croce, in the quhilk, as the maist patent and publict place, the tounis twa enseingzies, ane borne be Mr. Thomas Mengzeis, the vther be Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, being cassin in forme, and according to the custoume, the pick and spearmen standing in twa pairtis, as in twa seuerall distinct places, and vtheris in the middes, a gryt space left for the hagbutteris, thair wes schuting of the hagbuttis and geving of fyire be the speice of halff ane hour, thairefter thay wer dimissit, the ane halff of the hagbutteris conveying the berar of ane of the enseingzeis to his ludging with schuting, the vther halff of thame the vther enseingzie berar in lyke maner, tua drumis, na craftismen pinsellis sufferit to be borne, bot onlie the townis cullouris. 7th August, 1615.

21*st September*, 1615.

Quo die, honorabiles viri Dominus Jacobus Skeyne de Currihill, miles vnus Senatorum Collegii Justicie S. D. N. Regis, Alexander Skeyne de eodem, nec non Magister Andreas Skeyne, senior, eorum consanguineus, de Chapellen, recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden gratis gratia consilij solut. per quemlibet eorum quinque solidis in alba bursa vt moris est et prestito per eosdem juramento solito.

Eodem die, Jacobus Mylner et Joannes Smyth, servitores dicti domini de Curriehill, recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde dicti burgi gratis ubsque solutione alicuius compositionis et hoc ex speciali rogatu dicti Domini Jacobi Skeyne de Curriehill, militis solut. per quemlibet eorum quinque solidis in alba bursa vt moris est et prestito per eosdem juramento solito.

The said day, Robert Skeyne, paynter and glasinwricht, wes admittit and ressauit frieman of the said burgh, with libertie and friedome to him to vse and exerce his said calling of the glasin wricht craft and paynting allanerlie, and na forder, and that gratis, but payment of any composi-

21st Sept., 1615.

tioun, at the request of Sir James Skeyne of Curriehill, knycht, ane of the lordis of sessioun, quha gawe his aith according to the forme obseruit in sic caices.

Eodem die, Patricius Innes, vnus clericorum scaiarij S. D. N. regis receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden de communi consensu consalum dicti burgi et hoc gratis gratia consilij absque vlla compositione solut. quinque solidis in alba bursa vt moris est et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, Robertus Skeyne, filius [ ] receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden gratis absque solutione vllius compositionis et hoc gratia et rogatu honorabilis viri Domini Jacobi Skeyne de Curriehill, militis vnius Senatorum Collegij Justicie S. D. N. regis solut. per eundem quinque solidis in alba bursa vt moris est et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

25th November, 1615.

Item, the sex merchand buithis vnder the tolbuith wer sett to the persones vnderwritten, towitt, the twa merchand buithis occupiet be Johne Layng to the said Johne, the buith occupeit be Gilbert Henrie to the said Gilbert, the buith occupiet be Dauid Donaldsoun to the said Dauid, the buith occupiet be the said Stevin Gordoun to him, and the buith occupiet be Johne Ray to the said Johne, and that fra the feast of Witsonday nixt to cum, in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and fyifteine yeiris, quhilk salbe and begin thair entrie thairto, be vertew of this sett, vnto the feast of Witsonday nixt thairefter following, in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and sexteine yeiris, ilk ane of thame, for payment of the sowme of nynteine merkis money, to be payit to the thesaurer of this burghe for the tyme, at Witsonday and Mertimes in winter, be equall portionis, the first termis payment thairof to be and begin at the feast of Mertimes, in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and fyifteine yeiris, prowyding that gif it sall happin the toun to have ado at any tyme with the twa eastmest buithis, occupiet be Johne Ray and Stevin Gordoun, in that cace they sall remowe vpon the warning of twentie-four houris to be maid to thame obefoir.

4th February, 1616.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, new and auld counsellis, electit and chuisit George Nicolsoun, baillie, thair commissionar to pas to Edinburgh,

for keiping the twentie-ane and twentie-fourt dayis of Februar instant, befoir the Lordis of Sessioun, for persewing the summondis of advocatioun and suspensioun raisit at the townis instance, and of Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, aganis the Duke of Lennox, Admirall of Scotland, my Lord of Medope, and Willeame Settoun of Mownie, thair depute, concerning the jurisdictioun of the Admiralitie, as the summondis at length bearis, and ordaines the sowme of ane hundreth pundis to be payit be Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, to the said George Nicolsoun, to mack the said George expensses in the said commissioun, and to gratefie the procuratouris and thair servandis, and gif the said George salbe superexpendit, to be reimbursit at his returne vpoun his compt of his superexpensses to be gevin in to the councell. 4th Feb., 1616.

7th February, 1616.

The said day, the prouest, baillies, new and auld councellis, considdering that thair hes bene dyveris actis and ordinances maid be the haill towne, and als be the councell, for bigging of a sufficient wardhous in the east end of the tolbuith, as the ordinances maid thairanent proportis, quhilk as yit hes not tackin thair awin executioun, and now yit as obefoir, for dyveris gude considerationes and motives moving thame, hes thocht meit and expedient, devysit and ordanit, that the said wark salbe begun in all diligence but langer delay, and for this effect the councell hes nominat Williame Lowsoun, baillie, Williame Gray, lait baillie, Robert Johnestoun, and Dauid Cargill, to confer and deall earnestlie with Thomas Watsoun, in Rayne, meassone, for vndertaking the bigging of the said wark, in sic forme and maner, and vpoun sic conditiounis as thay can aggrie with the said Thomas.

3rd March, 1616.

The said day, in presence of the prowest, baillies, and counsell of this burgh of Aberdene, convenit in thair counselhous, compeirit Dauid Cargill, burges of the said burgh, executoir testamentar nominat and confermit to vmquhill maister James Cargill, doctor of medicine, his brother-germane, and produceit, in presens of the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsell, the iust extract of that pairt of the said vmquhill maister James his letter will and testament, berand his legacies left and mortifiet be him to the poore, hospitall, grammer schoole, and puir

3rd March, 1616.

scholaris within the said burgh of Aberdene, in forme and vpoun conditiounes mentionat in the said legacie, quhairof the tennor followis: Item, I leave to the sessiounes poore of new Aberdene, to be mortifeit, three hundreth merkis; item, to the hospital of new Aberdene, to be mortifeit, fyue hundreth merkis, quhairof the annuall Thomas Mar sall absolutily injoy during his lyftyme; item, to the maister of the grammer schoole of new Aberdene, to be mortifeit, fyve hundreth merkis, for the annuall quhairof he sall be obligit for the scollage and other schoole exactionies quhatsoevir, baith in Englisch and Latin schooles, with grammer buikis, authoris, and Englisch bookes vsed in the said schooles, and that for the vse of my puir freyndis: gif nane be in the schooles foirsaid, bot in the college, the annuall of the foirsaid fyue hundreth merkis salbe to thair vses in the college, or gif thay be in nather, the annuell salbe employit vpon the edifice of the grammer schoole of new Aberdeene, gif the insolencie of the scholaris cannot be repressit from demolisching, let the annuell be gevin to the honest puir houshalderis of new Abirdeine; item, for mantinance of four puir scholaris, and specially of my awin freyndis, quhilkis failzeing to townis bairnes of new Aberdeine at the college, quhairin learning shalbe thocht be the councell of Aberdeine most to flovrishe, four thowsand merkis, quhilkis to that effect I leave to be mortifeit, at the expenssis of the towne of Aberdeine, becaus in sum measure the proffett redoundis to it: ewrie ane of these four bursars to haue the proffet of ane thousand merkis yeirlie for the space of four yeiris, and gif thay be of my kin, one yeiris proffett moir efter the compleiting of thair cours. Off all these mortificatiounes I constitute the magistrats and councell of this toune, togidder with my brother Dauid Cargill, quhilkis failzeing the maill bairnes of my brether and sisteris, or my guidbrether, to haue the cair that na dilapidatioun or away putting may in any tyme cumming ensew, and that the towne of Aberdeine mack the expenssis vpoun the mortificatioun, as said is; mair, I will that euerie ane of the legatouris, alsueill the poore bursaris, and my brether and sisteris, and thair bairnes, pay the quott of thair awin pairt *pro rata*, and that thay mack expenssis vpon the obteining of my dettis *pro rata*, and incais of deboschit dettouris, all thair losses to be *pro rata*. The testament is daited at Aberdeine, the [ ] day of [ ], the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and fourtene yeiris. *Sic subscribitur*, Ja. Cargill. Conforme to the quhilk letter will and legacie of the said vmquhill Maister James Car-

gill, and for satisfactioun and fulfilling thairof, the said Dauid Cargill, his executour aboue namit, at the feast of Martimes last bypast, maid payment and delyuerance to the prowest, baillies, and councell of the said burghe, of the saidis haill legacies particularlie aboue writtin, extending in all to the sowme of fyve thowsand and thrie hundreth merkis, quhilk sowme of fyve thowsand and thrie hundreth merkis was wairit and gevin out againe on proffett, at the said terme of Martimes last, to certaine particular persones, and thair cautiouneris, nominat in the bandis maid thairvpon, to be payit at the feast of Martimes nixt to cum, to the behuiff and vse of these to quhome the same is restand mortefiet be the defunct, viz., four thovsand merkis for the behuiff of four bursaris, fyve hundreth merkis to the said grammer schoole, fyve hundreth merkis to the said hospitall, and thrie hundreth merkis to the behuiff of the poore houshalderis that ressaues quarterlie almes out of the sessioune, as the saidis bandis, produceit lykvayis this day in presens of the councell, and put vp in the tounis charter kist, at lenth in thameselff does testifie; inrespect quhairof the saidis provest, baillies, and councell, be thir presentis, quyt clames, exoneris, and dischargis the said Dauid Cargill, executour aboue nameit, his airis, executouris, and assignayes, of the saidis haill legacies particularlie aboue mentionat, and of all actioun competent aganes the said Dauid, or his forsaidis, for the samen *simpliciter* and for ewer, but preiudice aluayes of the foirsaidis bandis, gevin for payment of the saidis sowmes at the said terme of Mertimes nixt to cum, and of sic actioun and executioun as is or may be competent be vertew of the saidis bandis, aganes the principallis and cautioneris *respectiue* thairin nominat, to the quhilk this present discharge sall mack no derogatioun; and forder, the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell obleissis thame and thair successouris, prouest, baillies, and councell of the said burgh, present and to cum, to mack the saidis principall sowmes aboue writtin furthcummand in all tyme cuming, to the seuerall vses aboue specifeit, quhairvnto the same ar left and mortifiet be the defunct, and to na vther vse; lykeas, on the vther pairt, nochtwithstanding that be the said legacie it is provydit that euerie ane of the legatouris, alsveill the poore, the bursars, hospital, as the brother and sisteris of the defunct, and thair bairnes, sall mack the expenssis *pro rata*, vpoun the obteining of the defunctis dettis, and incais of deboschit dettouris, all thair losses to be *pro rata*, yit the said Dauid Cargill, executour forsaid, be thir presentis renunceis all actioun he may

3rd March, 1616.

3rd March, 1616.

haue aganes the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell in any tyme cumming, for repetitioun of any pairt of the mortificatiounes aboue writtin, be reasoune of deboschit dettouris, or yit for any expenssis maid or to be maid be him, in persute or recoverie of any pairt of the dettis conteanit in the said testament, in any tyme cumming, sa that the saidis mortefiet sowmes sall ewir remaine haill to the vses *respectiue* aboue specifiet, quhairvnto thay wer left be the defunct, not obstant of the provisioun aboue specifiet, contenit in the said legacie, quhairwith the said Dauid Cargill, for him and his foirsaidis, dispenssis for ewir, and as to the annuel rent and proffett of the saidis mortefiet sowmes for the yeir foirsaid, viz., fra Martimes last, 1615, to Martimes nixt, 1616, the samen is bestowit and employit as followis, towit, the ane halff thairof for payment of the quott of the saidis sowmes to the commissar of Aberdeine, and the vther haiff of the said annuall is employit pairtlie to the behuiff of twa bursars, viz., Willeame Cargill, brother sone to the said vmquhill Maister James, and James Forbes, his sister sone, and pairtlie to the behuiff of the said Thomas Mar and sessiones puir, ilk ane for thair awin pairtis *pro rata*, according to the proportion of the legacies aboue writtin left be thame, and not vtherwayis.

5th March, 1616.

The said day, the haill toune being convenit as said is, it wes exponit to thame be Thomas Mengzes of Cultis, prouest, that be ane act maid of obefoir be the magistrattis, councell, and haill communitie, convenit in thair heid court, vpoun the sevent day of Januar, 1612, it wes thocht meit and expedient, concludit, and ordanit with vniforme consent, but oppositioun, that thair sould be ane wardhous biggit in the eastend of the tolbuith of this burghe, for resset of his Maiestie's rebellis committit thairin in ward be letteris of captioun, or for vtheris actiounes, criminall or ciuill; and that the patrimonie and commoun guid of this burghe, his Maiestie's burrow maillis, the ministeris stipendis, and the rest of the townis stipendaris being payit and defrayit, sould be bestowit vpoun the bigging of the said jayell and wardhous; and whairas the townis commoune gude inlaikit and wantit, wer content to be stentit as the necessitie of the wark requyrit, as the said act, of the dait foirsaid, this day publictlie red at lenght proportis; conforme to the quhilk act and ordinance, it wes exponit to thame that the prouest, baillies, new and

auld councellis, had aggreit with Thomas Watsoun, meassone in Auld Rayne, for the bigging of the said wardhous in the eastend of the said tolbuith, of fywe woult hicht, with a platforme and a battelling, and to furneiss the haill materiallis thairto, except centreis, irne wark, lead, and a wyndes, for the soume of fyve thowsand merkis money of this realme to be payit to the said Thomas in maner and at the termes specifiet in the contract betuixt the present prouest, baillies, deane of gild, and thesaurer, for thameselffis and in name and behalff of the councell and communitie of this burgh, on the ane pairt, and the said Thomas Watsoun, maassone, as principall, Johne Leyth of Harthill, maister Willeame Leyth of Ardune, his sone, Johne Abercrommy, in Auld Rayne, and Johne Cruikschank, merchand burgess of Aberdeine, cautioneris for him for fulfilling of his pairt of the said contract, on the vther pairt, betuixt and the terme of Martimes *in anno*, ane thowsand sex hundreth and auchtene yeris, as the said contract, of the dait at Aberdeine and Harthill *respectiue*, the twentie-ane and twenty-four days *respectiue* of Februar last bypast, quhilk wes this day publictlie red in audience of the haill toune, at mair length does testifie ; and, thairfoir, the saidis Thomas Mengzes, prouest, inquyred of the toune, convenit as said is, gif thay thocht it meit and expedient that the said wark of the wardhous salbe biggit and accomplishit in maner specifeit in the said contract, and vpoun the conditiones thairin specifeit, and gif thay would aggrie and consent to warrand frie and keip skaythles the present prouest, baillies, deane of gild, and thesaurer, contracteris for thame and the haill councell of the said burgh, and thair successouris, prouest, baillies, and councell thairof in tyme cumming, of the said sowme of fyve thowsand merkis, at the handis off the said Thomas Watsoun, meassone, at the termes of payment specifeit in the said contract, and quhair the commoun gude and patrimonie of this burgh inlaikis, his Maiestie's burrow maillis and townis stipendiaris being payit, gif thay will be content to contribute and stent thameselffis for payment of sic sowmes as salbe thocht meit and expedient to be vpliftit for perfyiting and finisching of the said ward ; and the haill towne being convenit as said is, all in ane voyce, but any oppositioun or contradictioun, thought the bigging of the said wardhous, a wark most necessar to be done, and thairfoir nocht onlie ratefiet and approveit the said contract in all poyntis, heidis, and conditiounes thairof, bot lykewayes,

5th March, 1616.

th March, 1616. aggriet and consentit, that when the tounes commoun gude is not sufficient to pay the said sowme of fyve thowsand merkis, and to defray the charges on the bigging of the said wardhous, to stent thameselffis for sic sowmes of money as salbe thocht meit and expedient be the councell to be imposit vpoun the toune for that effect, and that stentaris be chosin for stenting of thame, promessing ilkane to pay thair awin pairtis according to the stent roll to be sett doun thairvpoun, and that letteris of horning be direct aganes thame as neid beis, on ane singall charge of thrie dayis; and forder, obleist thame to warrand, frie, releiue, and keip skaythles, the present prouest, baillies, and councell, and thair successouris, of the foirsaid sowme of fyve thowsand merkis, contenit in the said contract at the handis of the said Thomas, when all the commoun gude and patrimonie of the towne can not afford the same, whairvpoun, the said Thomas Mengzes, prouest, askit, and tuke act and instruments.

Eodem die.

The said day, Thomas Mengzes, prouest, exponit to the haill towne, convenit as said is, that be act and ordinance of baith the counsellis, the inhabitantis of Fraserisburgh ar chargeit vnder paine of horning to desist and ceas frome vsing any merchandice, packing, or peilling, within the said towne, or hauldin of oppin buithis thairin, vseing or vsurping the libertie off frie burgesses of gild in tyme comeing, at the instance of the prouest, baillies, councell, and communitie of this burgh, in respect the said towne off Fraserisburgh lyis within the precinct and liberties of this burgh; and that the inhabitantis of the said towne of Fraserisburgh, hes suspendit or at the least intendis to suspend the saidis letteris of horning, and sa to enter in actioun with this burgh vpoun the liberties and preuileges thairoff, grantit be his Maiestie's most noble progenitouris, cairfullie and wyislie manteanit heirvnto be the magistrattis and councell of this burgh in all tyme bygane; and inquyrit of the towne, convenit as said is, gif thay thocht it meit and expedient that the said mater sould be prosequite and followit out to the finall decisioun thairof, or nocht, seing the samen concernes the mantening of the liberties of the said burgh; quha being conveinit as said is, thocht it verrie necessar and expedient that the said actioun salbe prosequite and followit out cairfullie and diligentlie, as a mater of great consequence and moment, tuiching sa neir the standing of this burgh, and defending of the ancient liberties thairof, and

that twa or thrie off the wysest and most judicious of the councell fittest for the purpose, and of greatest moyen with the Lordis, be directed to attend vpon the said actioun, vntil the finall end and discus thairof, and wer content for macking of thair expenses, and to gratefie aduocattis, clerkis, and agentis, to be stentit for sic sowmes as the councellis sall think expedient to be liftit for that effect, and that taxtaris and stentaris be chosin for stenting thairof as occasioun sall offer, and that letteris of horning be direct for charging ilk persone to pay thair pairtis according to the stent roll, vnder the pane of horning; and Johne Merser, James Gregorie, saidleris, Willeame Kemptie, wright, and Johne Mylne, tailzeors, for thame selffis and in name of the craftis of the said burgh, dissassentit to the setting of any taxatioun, or lifting of any sowmes of money for persutt of that actioun foirsaid, aganes the inhabitantis of the said towne of Fraserisburgh, inrespect the mater, as thay alledgit, concernit onlie the brether of gild and liberties of merchandis, and nawayis the craftis, and protestit that thay, and the craftis of this burgh, be frie of any taxatioun to be sett or imposit vpoun thaime for the caus foirsaid, and thairvpoun askit instrumentis; and the said Thomas Mengzes, prouest, and Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, in name of the councell and haill brether of gild, protestit in the contrair, that the craftis of this burgh be subiect and hauldin to pay thair pairtis of sic taxatiounes as salbe imposit vpoun the inhabitantis of this burgh, for the caus aboue specifiet, in respect that vpoun the aucht day of Aprill, 1606, the haill towne, bayth merchandis, burgesses of gild, and craftismen, being that day conveinit in the tolbuith, consentit and aggriet, all in ane voyce but oppositioun, to be stentit for sic sowmes of money as sould be thocht meit and expedient be the magistrattis and councell, to be imposit for persewing of the said actioun aganes Fraserisburgh, as the act maid thairvpoun that day, and red this day opinlie in judgement, at length does testifie; and that the saidis Johne Merser, James Gregorie, Willeame Kemptie, and John Mylne, be censured be the prouest, baillies, and councell, as thair lauchfull magistrattis, and decernit be thame to have tint thair burghesschip, friedomes, and liberties of this burghe in time comeing, for violating of thair aiths, given be thame the tyme of thair admissioun friemen of this burgh, for mantening and defending of the liberties and preuileges thairof, and als as direct contrar to the commoun weill of this burgh, quhilkis they wer then sworne to defend.

5th March, 1616.

6th March, 1616.

6th March, 1616.

Followis the contract betuixt the towne of Aberdeine and Thomas Watsone, meassone in Auldrayne, concerning the bigging of ane wardhous, quhilk contract the counsell ordanis to be insert and registrat in the tounis buikis, thairin to remane *ad futuram rei memoriam*, quhairof the tennour followis.

At Aberdene and Harthill *respectiue*, the tuentie-ane and tuentie-four dayis *respectiue* of Februar, the yeir of God ane thowsand, sex hundreth, and sexteine yeiris, it is appointit, contractit, and finallie aggreit, betuixt the richt honorable Thomas Mengzes of Cultis, prouest of Aberdeine, Maister Dauid Rutherfurd, Paull Mengzes, Willeame Lowsoun, and George Nicolsoun, baillies thairof, Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, and Maister Johne Mortymer, thesaurer of the said burgh, for thame selffis, be vertew of thair offices, and in name and behalff of the councell and commonitie of the same burghe, on the ane pairt, and Thomas Watsoun in Auldrayne as principall, and Johne Leyth of Harthill, Maister Williame Leyth of Ardvne, his sone, Johne Abercromye in Auldrayne, and Johne Cruikschank, merchand burges of Aberdene, as cautioneris, souirteis, and full dettouris for and with the said Thomas, coniunctlie and seuerallie, for performance of his pairt of this present contract in all poyntis, on the vther pairt in maner, forme, and effect efter following, that is to say, forsameikill as the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell hes fiet and conduceit the said Thomas Watsoun to big the meassone wark of ane wardhous, quhilkis the saidis prouest, baillies, councell, and communitie intendis, God willing, in all convenient diligence to big and erect within the tolbuith of the said burgh, in the east end thairof, of the breidth of the haill tolbuyth, and fyftene or sextene futes in wydnes within the wallis, thairfoir the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell hes fiet and conduceit the said Thomas to big the meassone wark of the said wardhous, in forme, and upoun the conditiounes vnderwrittin, towit, the said Thomas sall begin at the ground and sall big ane massie wall of fyve futes in thiknes, at the pairt alredie designit for that effect, and sall big the same of the breidth of the haill tolbuith quhill it be voult hight, and sall voult ouer the nethermest voultis the hight of the tolbuith fluir, sufficientlie as effeiris, with roche stane, and vpoun the foirsaid wall the said Thomas sall big, of hewin wark, twa pilleris and thrie bowis, fynelie wrocht with chapture heidis at the beginning of the symmeris of the pendis, gangand

round about with hewen muildries the foirsyid of the pendis, and betuixt the pendis to mak sic hewin wark for decoratioun as the maister of wark, quha salbe appoyntit be the councell for that effect, discreitlie sall devyise, with ane tabill gangand fra end to end athort the haill tolbuith, aboue the croun of the pendis, and the saidis twa pilleris to be of greatnes, the ane gett four futes and ane halff, and the vther gett tua futes and a halff or thairby, as the said maister of wark sall think expedient; and with the heidis of the pilleris, betuixt the samen and the gavell wall of the tolbuyth, the said Thomas sall big thrie schelles of voult, of sic hicht as salbe thocht most expedient, and sall inclose tua of the saidis voultis with wallis, as the tymber houssis ar alredie, on ilk syid of the tolbuyth doir, with ane doir and a litile licht of hewin wark in ilk ane of the saidis twa voultis, and the inner pairt of the transe entering and passing fra the tolbuith doir, within the tolbuith, the cungzeis, and foir pairt of the said transe, to be all of eastler wark, with ane lang transe voult betuixt the thrie voultis, and the pilleris of four futes in breid or thairby, with ane doir of hewin wark to serve for a tymber doir, and ane irne doir to be stoppit throuch the east gavill of the tolbuith on the north syid of the tolbuyth doir, quhair it salbe thocht most expedient, to be ane entrie to the jaylouris hous and wardhous; and sall big ane wall fra the north east nuik of the tolbuith eastuard, in lenght the haill breid of the tolbuith stair, and the hicht of the battelment thairabout, and sall flatt the samen ouer, lewell with the present flatt entering to the tolbuith doir, for a passage and entrie to the said jaylouris hous doir, with ane hewin chack to gang doun to the lauch voult, and to mack ane hewin doir in the mid wall, betuixt the northmest voult and the southermest voult, with ane passage to ascend, ather with ane turne or flattis as salbe thocht maist expedient, to gang vp fra the heid of the first voult to the secund voult, and aboue the heidis of the pilleris to found and big ane gavill wall to ressaue the third voultis, and to found ane passage with ane turne vpoun the crann of the trans voult that gangis to the tolbuith, to ascend quhill it enter in the fyift voult, and na heicher, and to mack arches in euerie passage for lightis to serve the turnes or flattis, as the said maister of wark sall devyise; and the said Thomas shall big the haill four vtter wallis vpoun the croun of the secund voult hicht, to the thiknes of four sufficient futes in all pairtis, till it cum to the hight of the battelling of the said wark; and the third voult to be bot ane schell athort the haill hous for the

6th March, 1616.

6th March, 1616.

jaylouris duelling, or to mack the samen in tua schellis, in the optioun of the said maister of wark, with ane O to be maid in the schott wall aboue the jaylouris hous vp with to the found of the stepill, of sex insche all gett ouer, for ane bell string to the commoun bell, with ane devyse, as it may be most commodiouslie gottin, for sinkis to serve the haill houssis, and to discend in tua cobbillis or ane cobill, as salbe thocht most convenient, quhilkis cobbillis the said Thomas sall cast in the northermost voult, and sall big about and fluir the samen with flagstanes, and mack coveris thairto, and sall stop the north wall vnder the ground, for macking a passage to the excrementis to gang throw the said wall vnder the calsie, and sall cast ane cobill vnder the calsie outwith the tolbuyth, and to voult the samen and leave ane four nuikit hoill in the croun of the said voult, quhairby the said haill sink may be purgeit; and aboue the third voult the said Thomas sall big the fourt voult of tua schellis, and shall big ane tabill from end to end, betuixt the tua cungzeis of the said wark aboue the levelling of the auld well, and to found the new wall vpoun the said tabill, with tua hewin cungzeis on the foir pairt, and twa hewin cungzeis on the back pairt, to ryise vp till the founding of the kirnellis, with ane hewin tabill to gang about evrie hous hight vpoun the foir pairt of the wark narrest the croce, as the said maister of wark shall devyse; with thrie housingis, tua at the first hous hight, and the third vnder the corbellis, to be hewin of the best faschion of wark, as salbe devyisit be the said maister of wark, and the said tabill to rancownter round about the cungzeis till it cum to the sklaittis, and the top of the auld gauill to be demolischit, quhill it cum to the thicknes of four futes, and then to be biggit vp of the same thicknes conforme to the rest of the vther wallis, with four kirnellis of hewin wark to be foundit with sa manye courses of rollis, that the kirnellis off hewin wark salbe fyue futes in wyidnes within at the least, and the kirnellis, corballis, and reckis, to be all aboue the rigging of the tolbuith sex futes of hicht, and the nether beddis thairof to be with the rigging, and the croun of the fourt voult sall be sex futes or thairby laucher then the rigging of the tolbuyth, and the fyft voult to be conforme in hicht aboue the fourt, and to be sex futes in hicht aboue the rigging of the tolbuith; and the said Thomas shall ragyell the new gavill with an tabill of frie wark, to mack the tolbuith waterthicht, and sall do all vther thingis necessarlie requisite for the sufficiencie of the wark, and for decoratioun of the same, as the

said maister off wark sall discreitlie devyse, with fyve chimnayes, to wit, ane in the jaylouris duelling, and ane in ewrie ane of the four chalmeris aboue the samen, togidder with tua lichtis in the jaylouris hall, ane licht in the jaylouris chalmer, and ane or tua lichts in ewrie ane of the saidis four chalmeris aboue the jaylouris duelling, and the saidis chymnayes and wyndowes to be all of hewin wark, and of sic competent hicht and wyidnes as salbe thocht meitt for the maister of wark, with hewin durris to ewerie hous, and ane geblet doir within ewerie hous to serve for a preivie to the samen, all of hewin wark, with ane small spout in ilk chalmer to convoy the vrine throch the wall, and with gallean heidis convenient for the wark, as salbe fund necessar and expedient; and forder, the said Thomas sall big ane vther passage to go out of the tolbuith to the battelling and heid of the hous, or to enter and ryse outwith the tolbuyth doir, as salbe thocht most convenient, and the said passage to be buildit in the southeast nuik of the said tolbuyth, with ane hewin doir on the heid of the said passage, to enter in to the platforme, and sall build ane voyd hard be the said passage for letting doun the paissis frome the knock, the space of twentie-four futtis in length or thairby, to the quhilk knock he sall build ane convenient round on the west syd of the said south east kirnell, and the bell of the said knock to be hung in the hicht of the said south east kirnell, with ane litill wicket at the nethermost pairt of the said voyd to luik in to the paissis, and the jaylouris passage nawayes to pas any heicher nor to the fyift voult, sua that the said jaylour shall be secluidit frome any passage to the battelling; and the commoun bell and knock to be placed on the south syid of the wark narrest the mercat croce, with ane commodious passage thairto, frie of all the wardhoussis, quhairby the keiper of the bell and knock may have acces thairto at all occasiounes, be ane passage be itselff apairt fra the passage to the wardhous, and above the fyft voult the said Thomas sall big ane battelling of fyne aisler wark, weill hewin, castin out vpoun corballis, and failzies of thrie tyir hicht sufficient for ane battelling, and shall platforme and mack watterthicht the haill heid of the hous with fyne aisler, except sa meikill as mon serve for founding of the stepill, with spoutis of sufficient decoirment to convoy the watter off the platforme; and als, the said Thomas sall found the said stepill with aisler wark of sex futtes of hicht aboue the head of the platforme, with ane hewin doir thairin, at anye pairt quhair it salbe thocht expedient, and a

6th March, 1616.

6th March, 1616.

passage to be foundit in ane of the cungzeis of the said stepill of the hicht foirsaid, and the side wall of the fund of the said stepill to be thrie futtes and ane halff in thiknes; and the said Thomas sall furneis all sort of stanes, baith wall stanes, pend and frie wark, and the said friestane to be all of Kinguiddie, Stanehyue, or any pairt of the friedome of Aberdeine, of sic sufficient hardnes that the same abyde baith wind and wather, vnworne or consumeit, and gif any be tryit to be insufficient quhen they cum to the wark, to be rejectit, and vtheris of sufficient hardnes to be furneist be the said Thomas in thair place; and als, the said Thomas sall fynd lyme, and all vther materiallis necessar for the wark, with meassonis and barrowmen, vpoun his awin charges and expenssis, the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell finding onlie on thair charges tymber to be centress, and deavelling, irne wark, and lead, with ane wyndles for heising vp of stanes, and finding towis to the said wyndes allanerlie, and na forder; and the said Thomas sall begin (God willing,) to the said wark, at the first day of August nixt to cum, and sall big and outred the nethermest voultis with the pilleris and voultis within the tolbuith, betuixt and Martimes nixt to cum, in this instant yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and sextene yeiris, and shall compleit and outred the haill wark substantiallie and sufficientlie in all thingis, in maner as is aboue devysit, be the ouersight and advyse of sic as salbe appoyntit maisteris of wark be the councell to that effect, betuixt and the feast of Martimes nixt to cum, in the yeir of God j^{m} sex hundreth and auchtene yeiris, and heirvnto the saidis cautioneris, and als the said Thomas, bindis and obleissis thame, thair airis, executouris, assignayes, successouris to thair landis and heretages, and intromittaris with thair guidis and gear quhatsumevir, coniunctlie and severallie, for keiping and fulfilling of this pairt of the present contract, and perfyting of the wark conforme thairto, at the termes aboue designit, without any langer protracting of tyme, vnder the paine of fyve hundreth merkis vsuall Scottis money, to be payit be the said Thomas, and his cautioneris foirsaidis, incais of failzie, he being alyve, to the thesaurer of the said burgh for the tyme, in name of the saidis prouest, baillies, councell, and communitie, for coast, skaith, damage, and interest to be sustenit be thame thairthrow, presentlie modefeit and liquidat of the said Thomas and his said cautioneris awin consent, but any exceptioun to be proponit in the contrair; for the quhilkis caussis, and dew performance and accomplisch-

ment thairof, sufficientlie and substantiallie, in maner aboue writtin, the saidis prouest, baillies, deane of gild, and thesaurer, for thame selffis and thair successouris, in name of the councell and communitie of the said burgh, present and to cum, obleissis thame faythfullie to pay and delyver to the said Thomas the sowme of fyve thowsand merkis gude and vsuall money of this realme, in maner and at the termes following, viz., the sowme of ane thowsand merkis at the feast of Witsonday nixt to cum, in this instant yeir of God, ane thowsand sex hundreth and sexteine yeiris; ane vther thowsand merkis at Martimes nixt thaireftir, in the same yeir; fyve hundreth merkis at the feast of Witsonday, in the yeir of God ane thowsand, sex hundreth, and sevinteine yeiris, and the rest of the said fyve thowsand merkis to be payit pairt and pairt proportionallie as the wark ryissis and proceidis, be the sight and advyse of the prouest and baillies of the said burgh for the tyme, and maister of wark foirsaid; provyding alwayes, that fyve hundreth of the said sowme ly in the townis handis vnpayit till the wark be fullie and perfytelie compleit and outred, as is aboue devysit; forder, it is speciallie provydit and condiscendit betuixt the saidis pairties, that gif it sal happin the said Thomas Watsone to be prevented be death, as God forbid, before the compleiting of the said wark, and he in the mein tyme befoir his deceas to bestow vpoun materiallis or building of a pairt of the wark, attour the vallour and worth of the sowmes quhilkis salbe payit and advanceit to him befoir his deceas, in that caice the prouest, baillies, and councell of the said burgh sall chuise four sufficient suorne craftismen, quha vpoun thair conscience sall vallour the said building and materiallis, and gif the samen, be thair estimatioun, surmount the sowmes ressaued be the said Thomas befoir his deceas, the councell sall refound and pay back agane to the airis or executouris of the said Thomas the superplus, quhatewer the same extend to, aboue his ressett foirsaid, be the declaratioun and estimatioun of the saidis four suorne craftismen, and gif the saidis materiallis and building, be estimation of the saidis craftismen, extend not to the sowmes ressauit be the said Thomas befoir his deceas, in that [caice] the cautioneris aboue named salbe bund and obleist, and be thir presentis bindis and obleissis thame, coniunctlie and seuerallie, thair airis, executouris, and assignayes, to refound and pay back againe to the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell sic sowmes of money as thay haue debursit to the said Thomas attour the vallour of the said building and materiallis, with sic costes, skaithes, and

6th March, 1616.

3th March, 1616.

expenssis as sall happin the saidis prouest, baillies, and councell to sustene in persute and recoverie thairof; and the said Thomas be thir presentis bindis and obleissis him faithfullie, his airis, executouris, and assignayes, and intromittairis with his guidis and gear quhatsumewir, to warrand frie, releive, and keip skaithles his saidis cautioneris, ilk ane of thame and thair foirsaidis, of this thair cautionarie aboue writtin, haill contentis of this present contract, with all cost, skaith, and inconvenient quhilk sal happin thame or anye of thame to incur thairthrow at the handis of the said towne of Aberdeine, and thair successouris, but fraud or gyill; and for the mair securitie, baith the saidis pairties ar content and consentis that thir presentis be registrat in the buikis of councell, commissar, or baillie court buikis of Aberdeen, to haue the strength of ane confessit act and judiciall decreit, with executoriallis of poynding and horning the ane but preiudice of the vther to be direct thairon, vpoun a singill charge of ten dayis: and to that effect constitutes coniunctlie and seuerallie thair lauchfull procuratouris *promittentes de rato;* in witnes quhairof, baith the saidis pairties *respectiue* aboue named hes subscryvit thir presentis with thair handis as followis, day, yeir, and place foirsaidis, writtin be Willeame Craigheid, seruiture to Walter Robertsoun, clerk depute of the said burgh, befoir thir witnessis, *respectiue*, Henrie Forbes of Newhillis, Johne Tullydaff, George Ricard, and Robert Johnestoun, burgesses of Aberdeine, James Ogiluy, sone to vmquhill Williame Ogiluy of Baldavie, Alex^r^. Vaus, and the said Williame Craigheid. *Sic Subscribitur*, Thomas Mengzes, prouest. Maister Dauid Rutherfurd, baillie, Paull Mengzes, baillie, Williame Lowsoun, baillie, Thomas Watsone aboue named, with my hand, at the pen led be the connotaris vnder subscryvand, becaus I can not wreat. Ita est Walterus Robertsoun notarius publicus de mandato dicti Thome scribere nescientis vt asseruit testante hac mea subscriptione manuali et similiter ego Magister Thomas Mollisoun connotarius de speciali mandato dicti Thome Watsone scribere nescientis subscribo, Dauid Cargill, deane of gild, Maister Johne Mortymer, thesaurer, Johne Cruikschank, with my hand, Johne Leyth of Harthill, Maister Williame Leyth with my hand, Johne Abercrommy, Maister Thomas Mollisoun, commoun clerk of Aberdeine as witnes, Walter Robertsoun, witnes, Alexander Vause, witnes.

3rd April, 1616.

3d April. 1616.

The same day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, thinkis it meit and expedient that thair be ane new ensengzie maid of reid and quhyitt tafitie, with the towneis armis in the midis thairof, beirand thair dictum Bon-accord, in respect the ald enseingzie quhilk wes maid at the quenis entrie within this toune fyftie-fywe yeiris since or thairby is all lacerat and revin, and nocht seiming to be borne, and ordanis Maister Johnne Mortimer, thesaurer, to by the tafitie thairto fra Walter Robertsoun, merchand, quho wes commandit to bring hame the samen to the effect foirsaid, out of Flanderis, and to caus mack the said enseingzie in all convenient diligence, and sic as he deburssis thairvpon, the counsall ordanis to be allowit to him in his comptis.

26th June, 1616.

The said day, the baillies and counsell appoyntis Dauid Cargill, deine of gild, to caus calsey the brig of Done sufficientlie and substantiallie withe all convenient dilligence: and for that effect nominatis and appoyntis the said Dauid to be collectour of the annuell, mortefeit be vmquhill Sir Alexander Hay, knicht, clerk of register, to the vphauld of the said brig for the Mertemes terme, j^{m} sex hundreth and fyfteine yeiris, and Witsonday terme 1616 yeiris, with power to the said Dauid to gif acquittanceis thairvpoun, and to mak compt thairof to the counsall befoir Michaelmes nixt.

The aith of the burgesses of Aberdene, gewin the tyme of their admissioun:—

1. I salbe leall and trew to the King of Scotland, his airis and successors.
2. To the burghe and friedome of Aberdene.
3. Nevir skaith thair wairis.
4. Thair proffeit foirsie.
5. I sall obey to the officearis of this burghe, to what estait that ewir I come.
6. I sall voit na persone to be provest nor baillie of this burghe, except burgesses, merchandis, actuall induellaris of the same.
7. I sall giwe leall and trew counsall quhen it is askit.
8. I sall conceall the counsall of this burghe.

23d June, 1616.

9. I sall warne thame of thair skaith, latt it at my powar.
10. I sall governe na vnfriemenis goods, vnder cullor of my awin.
11. I sall scott, lott, watche, walk, and waird with the inhabitantis thairof.
12. Na lordschip purches in contrair the libertie of this burghe.

Sua help me God, be my awin hand, and all that God maid.

31*st July*, 1616.

The quhilk day, the haill toun being convenit this day within the tolbuith, conforme to the warning maid to thame for that effect be the hand bell, Thomas Mengzeis, prowest, exponit and declarit to thame that his Maiestie haid indicted a nationall assemblie to be haldin at this burgh, the thretteine day of August nixt to cum, quhairat thair wald be a gryte resort of peopill of all estates within this kingdome, alsweill of the bischoppis and clergie, as of erles, lordis, barronis, and commissioneris of burrowis, thairfoir desyrit the nichtbouris, convenit as said is, to prepair thair houssis with all sort of victuallis and furniture necessar for interteaniement of his Maiestie's liegis repairing to the said conventioun, and that ewerie inhabitant of this burght keip the calsie and streitt cleine of any kynd of middingis, read, or steanes befoir thair yettis, stairis, and dwelling housses, and hald the same cleine and read during the haill tyme of the said conventioun, ilk persone failzieing theirin to incur the vnlaw of fywe poundis; as also, that ewerie nichtbour, according to his awin degrie, be honestlie appariellit during the tyme of the said assemblie, and that thair wyffis repair to the kirk and streittis with clokis, and not with playddis, as they ar frequentlie in vse to do.

28*th August*, 1616.

The quhilk day, anent the petitioune gewin in to the counsell be Mr. Androw Aidie, principall of the colledge of this brugh, desyirand the back dyick of the colledge yard, quhilk is crenisched and speldit at the wast neuck thairof, and lickie to faill, to be repairit and mendit in tyme befoir it fall and decay altogither, the counsell ordainis Dauid Cargill to tack sume messonneis with himself and viseit the said back dyick, and considder quhat will repair the same sufficientlie, and to report to the counsell this day aucht dayis.

24th September, 1616.

24th Sept. 1616.

The quhilk day, Thomas Mengzeis, prouest, exponit to the towne, convenit this day within the tolbuith, that at the lait generall assemblie, haldin at this burght in August last, my Lord Archbischope of Sanct Androis, be speciall direction of his Maiestie, and consent of the haill assemblie then convenit, had appoyntit Mr. Willeame Forbes, minister at Monymusk to be transplanted thairfra, and planted ane of the ordinar ministeris of this burght, for the reasounis contenit in the act sett doun thairanent at the said assemblie, and thairfoir inquired of the town, convenit as said is, gif they be content to accept the said Mr. Willeame to be thair minister, and to contribute for his provisioun, quha all in ane voice, but oppositioun, wer content and consentit to accept the said Mr. Willeame to be ane of the ordinar ministeris, and to contribute for his provisioun and stipend, to be peyit in sic mesure and forme as the counsall sall aggrie with the said Maister Willeame.

7th January, 1617.

The quhilk day, the haill communitie, being convenit in their head court, it wes exponit to thame be Thomas Mengzeis, prowest, that upon the ellevint day of December last bypast, the new and auld councellis, with the deaconis of craftis, being then convenit in the counsalhous, had aggriet and condiscendit to giwe to Maister Willeame Forbes (quha be ordinance of the last generall and nationall assemblie hauldin at this burgh in August last bypast, is appoyntit ane of the ordinar ministeris of this burght) the sowme of sex hundreth pundis money, for his yeirlie stipend and serwice of the ministrie, and teacheing of a lesson of theologie in the college of this burght, to be payit to him be the townis thesaurer at twa vsuall termis in the yeir, Witsonday and Martemes in winter, be equall portiounis, the first termis payment to begyn at Witsonday nixt to cum; that for his securitie of gude and thankfull payment thairof, the saidis prowest, baillies, new and auld councellis, and deaconis of the craftis, ar becum actit and obleist for thameselffis and thair successouris in name and behalff of the haill communitie, to pay the same yeirlie to the said Maister Willeame, sa lang as he remanis actuall minister of this burght, as the act of counsall maid thairvpoun, of the dait foirsaid, proportis; and because thair is no vther meane nor moyen to pay the said yeirlie stipend bot the commoun contributioun of the

h January, 1617.

communitie of this burght, except onlie the proffeitt and annuall rent off twa thousand merkis Scottis money, morteifeit be maister Patrik Copland to ane professor of theologie within the college of this burght, (quhilk mortificatioun is expreslie conceavit and prowyidit to the behove of the said Maister Willeame Forbes, and to his successoris, teacheris of theologie within the college in all tyme comeing), and the townis kirk annuallis, extending yeirlie to sex scoir pundis, thairfoir desyrit the communitie, convenit as said is, to bind thameselffis for payment of the superplus of the said stipend attour the annuall of the said Mr. Patrik Coplandis mortification, and kirk annuallis foirsaid, quhilk desyre the haill communitie in ane voyce, but oppositioun or contradictioun, thocht werie ressonabill, and conforme thairto voluntarily become bund and obleist for thame and thair successoris to mak payment of the superplus of the said yeirlie stipend of sex hundreth pundis, attour the saidis kirk annuallis, and mortificatioun foirsaid, yeirlie and ilk yeir in tyme comeing, sa lang as the said Mr. Willeame remanis actuall minister at this burght, and to that effect ar content and consentis to be stentit yeirlie for payment thairoff, ilk ane for thair awin pairtis, according to the stent roll to be sett doun thairanent, and that taxtaris and stentaris be chosin yeirlie to the effect foirsaid, as salbe injoyned be the magistrattis for the time; as lykwayis consentis, for the better and mair readie payment thairoff, that letteris of horning be direct thairwpoun, at the instance of the magistrattis, charging the communitie to conveine to theis taxtaris for stenting of the samen vpon thame, and to charge the saidis taxtaris to accept the said office vpon thame, and giwe furth ane stent roll thairvpoun, as lykwayis to charge the communitie to mak payment thairoff, ilkane for thair awin pairtis, conforme to the said stent roll, vnder the paine of horning.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit in thair head court, thocht it meit and expedient that the Gray Frier kirk of this burght, quhilk is situat in the middest and hart of the towne, salbe repairit in the haill glassin wyndoes, and in daskis, for the exercise of commoun prayeris in tyme of winter, teaching of lessounis of theologie, and vther public actis, as the toun happines to hawe ado, and for that effect all in ane voice aggreit and consentit that ane voluntar contributioun suld be lifted and vptakin of ilk inhabitant within the towne, according to thair awin dis-

cretioun and liberalitie, and to be convertit to the vse foirsaid of the repairing, and glassin of the wyndoes, of the said kirk, and in bigging of daskis thairintill, and no vtherwayis, be adwyse and discretioun of the prowest, baillies, and councell of this burght. 7th January, 1617.

12*th February*, 1617.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and councell, vnderstanding that ane reverend father in God, Alexander, sumtyme bischope of Cathnes, is to be admittit bischope of Aberdeine, and inaugurat at Sanct Androis, vpon the twentie-third of this instant, thocht it meit and expedient that Mr. Archibald Blakburne, ane of the ministeris and pastouris of this burght, sall pas to Sanct Androis, and thair befoir the consecratioun of the said bischope, to get his fyue hundreth pundis provisioun and pensioun giwen to him out of the bischoperick of Aberdeine, ratifeit and approwit be the said reverend father, Alexander, now bischope of Aberdeine, befoir his consecratioun, and to trawell effectuouslie with the twa archibischopes, and vtheris that salbe thair convenit, to get the said eareand exped and done, as wes promeist be the nationall and generall assemblie hauldin at this burght in August last bypast, and be my lord of Sanct Androis, moderator of the said assemblie, and for making his expenssis, ordanis fourtie merkis to be gevin to the said Mr. Archibald, be Willeame Buchan, thesaurer, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis. Persones of counsells present: Thomas Meingzeis, prowest, Willeame Gray, Thomas Forbes, Robert Johnstoun, Gilbert Cullen, baillies, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, Mr. Willeame Moir, Willeame Buchan, Alex^{r}. Kempt, Alex^{r}. Rutherfurd, Alex^{r}. Cruikshank, Maister Thomas Johnstoun, Alex^{r}. Leslie, Thomas Clerk.

18*th February*, 1617.

The quhilk day, Thomas Meingzeis, prowest, intimat to the toun, convenit this day be the handbell, ane missiue letter direct to the magistrattis of this burght, from the lordis of his Maiesties privie counsall, quhilk letter wes oppinlie red in presence of the haill toune convenit as said is, quhairof the tenour followis: To our richt traist freyndis, the prowest and baillies of Aberdeine: after our werie hartie commendationis, whereas, the Kingis Maiestie, at his comeing to this kingdome (God willing,) this approcheing spring, will haue occasioun to remayne some certane space about Munrewmonth for his sport and gayme, it is lyke aneugh

18th Feb. 1617.

that if the necessitie of his princelie affeiris and adois will not suffer him to come forder northe, that yitt divers of his tryne and followaris, especiallie noblemen and vtheris of rank and qualitie, out of thair curiosity to visite the principall pairtis and cheiff burrowis of this kingdome, will tak purpos to come to that toune, whilk being one amongis the best of accompt in this cuntrie, his Maiestie is so muche the more cairfull that all thingis be so ordourlie prepairit thair, that nather may thair appeir ony markis of incivilitie nor tackynnis of penurie and scant amongis you; and thairfoir, by his Maiesties expres command and directioun, we ar to recommend you that the ludgings in your toune be prepairit in the most handsome, civile, and comelie order that can be, with goode bedding, weele washine and weele smellit naprie, and with goode cleine and cleir weshell, and of sufficient lairgenes, that thair be sufficient provisioun of viueris for men and horse, that your streets and vennels be kept clene, and that no filthe nor middingis be seine vpon the same; and in speciall, that the commoun way betuixt your toune and the Auldtoun be keept clene, and that yow giwe present ordour for remoweing and halding of all middingis at the same, becaus the same is not onlie his Maiesties hie way to the Auldtoun, whair the consistorie sittis, and whairvnto all the memberis of that judicatorie, and pairtyis haueing to do thair, doeth daylie repair, bot the strangeris whilks will repair to your towne at that tyme, will be curious to see the colledge, churche, and otheris monumentis in the Auldtoun; and last, during that aboade of the strangeris amongis yow, thair be no beggaris seene vpoun your streittis, nor about your portis, and recommending all thir premisses to your consideratioun and performance, as speciall pointis concerning the credite and reputatioun of your towne, besydis his Maiesties singular contentment and plesure, we bid yow hartelie fareweele. Frome Edinburgh, the xvi. day of Januar, 1617, your werie assuired goode freyndis, Al. Cancellarius, Binning, Scone, George Hay, G. Murray. Quhilk letter being opinlie red, the said Thomas Meingzeis, prowest, desyrit the towne, convenit as said is, to conforme thame selffis to the desyre thairof in all thingis, as suld be particularlie injoyned to thame be thair magistrattis, quha promeist obedience thairto in ewerie poynt as they salbe commandit.

19*th March*, 1617.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and councell, ordanis the portis

of this burght to be mendit and repairit, baith in the leawes and stainewark thairof, as also, ordanis all the ilestis, hoillis, and deformities in the calseyis, to be repairit and helpit with all convenient diligence, conforme to the directioun send thairanent from the lordis of his Maiesties privie counsall; and sic pairtis of the saidis calseyis as ar not to be repairit be the nichtbouris, the same to be done be the deane of gild on the townis commoun chargis, and sic as he deburssis thairanent, to be allowit to him in his comptis. 19th March, 1617.

21*st May*, 1617.

The said day, Johne Cruickshank, merchand burges of this burght, presentit to the prouest, baillies, and counsall, a missiue letter direct to thame frome Maister Patrik Copland, togidder with a buist conteining the said Mr Patrikis mortification of tua thowsand merkis, to be laid vp on bank, to the behowe of a professor of theologie within the college of this burght; quhilk missiue, togidder with the said letter of mortificatioun, being red in counsall, they ordane the same to be registrat in the townes bookes, *ad futuram rei memoriam*, as also to be registrat in the recordis of the said college to the effect foirsaid; and the principall mortificatioun to be put vpe in the townis charter kist in sure custodie and keiping in all tyme comeing, quhairof the tenour followis: To the right worshipfull the provost, baillies, and councell of the towne of Abirdeine, these. Right worshipful and dearly beloved in the Lord, I receaved youris, bearing date the first of January, the tuentie one of the same, from the right worshipfull Sir Thomas Smyth, gouernour to the East India Company: the thing yee by your letteris desire to be by mee performed I had done before your letteris came to my hand; and now I am glad that yee have procured Mr. William Forbes, whom I know to be both holy and learned; and I doe most heartily rejoyce that my small helpe hath been some meane to procure so sufficiently well qualified a man. Yee shall herefore receave my letter of mortificatioun, written, sealed, and subscribed with my owne hand, that it may be recorded both in your townes bookes and recordes of your colledge, to testifie my dewitie towardis God and love to my native towne and colledge. I am now againe called by the right worshipfull East India Company to goe back to the Indees, and after much intreitie haue now at last yeelded my consent to goe in the James Royal, the admirall of their goodly fleet, which within a few dayes

21st May, 1617.

is to put to sea. My humble sute vnto you all is, that yee wold recommend mee in your best devotioun vnto God, that he wold wouchsafe his blessing vpon my weake labouris, that I may be serviceable in my place, to gaine glory vnto him, and to doe good vnto his people. If God in mercie returne mee, and with all blesse my woyage, I will cast in one mite more vnto his treasurie, how small soever it be. The mony bussienes which now lye vpon me, and the short tyme I haue, doe force me to mak ane end, and to bid you all heartily farewel in the Lord. Frome the James, ridding at Erith, this 23 of January, 1616. Yours readye to be commanded, Patrik Copland.

28*th May*, 1617.

The whilk day, these worshipfull knychtis and worthie gentillmen eftir named, servandis to our most gratious moderne soverane lord, James, be the grace of God, King of Great Britane, France, and Ireland, defender of the faithe, to witt:

Sir Thomas Gerard, barronet, and gentillman of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Sir Thomas Pinridok, one of his Maiesties sellaris.

Sir Edward Rutche, one of the gentillmen of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Sir George Gorine, liwetenent to his Maiesties pensionaris.

Sir Johne Leidis, gentillmane isher of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Sir Theobald George, gentillmane isher of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Doctour Chalmeris, phisitian to his Maiestie.

George Spencer, esquyer, one of his Maiesties carveris.

Francis Knichtlie, one of his Maiesties coupberaris.

Edward Ray, esquyer of his Maiesties bodie.

Thomas Stephaine, coupberar extraordinar to his Maiestie.

James Auchmutie, grvme of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Patrik Abercrombie, grvme of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Richard Cauldveld, grvme of his Maiesties privie chalmer.

Adame Hill, pauge of his Maiesties bed chalmer.

Johne Freynd, sergeant at armes to his Maiestie.

Robert Maxuell, sergeant at armes to his Maiestie.

Duncane Prymrois, sergeant chirurgian to his Maiestie.

Johne Wolffinmuler, apothecarie to his Maiestie. 28th May, 1617.
Archibald Armestrang.

Wer all creatt, maid, and admittit burgesses of gild of this burght, quha being sworne, vplifting thair handis, gawe their aythis in maner following, that is to say, that they, and ilkane of thame, suld be leal and trew to our said dread Soverane Lord, most gracious Prince, James, be the grace of God, King of Gryt Britane, France, and Ireland, defender of the faithe, his airs and successouris, to the toune of Aberdeine, manteane, fortifie, and defend the libertie and preuileges thairof, procuir the weill, honour, and vtilitie of the samen, give thair trew and ewfall counsall quhen it askit to that effect.

4th June, 1617.

The quhilk day, in presence of the prowest, baillies, and counsall, comperit personallie Alexander Forbes, sumtyme of Towie, and voluntarlie submittit himselff to the determinatioun and censure of the prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, to vnderly and mak sic amendis and satisfactioun as they sall injoyne for the wrang and indignitie done be him to the toune, and to Mr Willeame Wedderburne, doctour of thair grammer schoole, vpoun the day off last bypast, in passing to the said grammer schoole and their geving ane cuff to the said Maister Willeame Wedderburne, promeising quhatsumeuer amendis and satisfactioun, the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall sall decerne him to mak for the said wrang, that he sall willinglie obey and fulfill the same in all poyntis, quhairanent the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall adwyseing, inrespect of the said Alexander, his submissiue reference of himselff to be censured be thame for his said wrang, and that thairby he kyitchis to be sorie and grewit for the same, thairfoir they ordane the said Alexander to go presentlie to the grammer schoole of this burght, quhair he did the wrang, and thair in all humilitie, on his kneeis, in presence of the magistrattis and maister of schoole and scholaris, sitt doun on his kneeis, acknowledge and confes his offence, and crawe the magistrattis and counsall pardone, as also, the said Maister Willeame Wedderburne, quhome he offendit, and promeis nevir to do the lyk in tyme comeing; conforme to the quhilk ordinance, and for obedience and satisfactioun thairof, the said Alexander Forbes of Towie past instantlie with the magistrattis and counsall to the said grammer schoole, and thair most

4th June, 1617.

submissiwelie, on his kneeis, confest his wrang foirsaid, done to the toune, and to the said Maister Willeame Wedderburne, doctour of thair grammer schoole, and first crawit the magistrattis and counsall, and nixt the said Mr. Willeame pardoun thairfoir, promeising neuir to do the lyke in tyme cumeing, but to remayne a freynd and weill willar baith to the toune, and to the said Mr. Willeame in all tyme heireftir, and instantlie choppit handis with the magistrattis and the said Mr. Willeame.

8th October, 1617.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, considering the cauldnes enterit in practise within this burght of ane gryt number of the inhabitantis thairof, professing Chryist, as he is now offerit be the preacheing of the evangell, be wilfull remaining from thair paroche kirk in tyme of preacheing and prayeris, and frome the heiring of the word of God sincerely preacheit on the Sabboth day, and be gamyng and playing, and passing to tavernes and ailhousses in time of sermonis, on the Sabboth day, contrair to the custome of reformed kirkis and weill governed commonweillis of this realm, procuiring thairby the wraith and displesure of God, and that dyvers actis hes beine maid obefoir, according to the actes of Parliament for keiping of the said sermones, and repairing to the kirk on the Sabboth day, quhilkis throu iniquitie of time hes nocht tain thair awin full executioun, for remeid thairof, followit the directioun first of Godis word, and than the saidis actis of parliament, with the loweabill custome of vther reformed congregatiounes, hawe statute and ordaint that all maisters of houshaldis within this burght, and thair wyiffes, alsweill craftismen as burgesses of gild, and other inhabitantis thairof, and thair servandis, sall repair in tyme comeing to thair paroche kirk, keip and obserue the sermones on the Sabboth day, alsweill efternoone as befoir noone, and the saidis maisteris of houshaldis, alsweill craftismen as burgesses, to keip and obserue the sermones on the weik day, and not to depairt out of the kirk thairfra vnto the end thairof, vnder the paines following, to be vplifted of the contravenar so oft as they be noted and convict for thair absence, or fund in houss, buith, streitt, or mercat during the tyme of sermone: that is to say, of euerie houshalder and his wyiff, burges of gild, for thair remaneing frome the sermones on the Sabboth day, thretteine schillingis four pennies ; and of euerie craftisman maister and houshalder, for thair remaneing frome the sermones

on the Sabboth day, sex schillingis aucht pennies; and of the saidis craftismen, servandis, and prenteisses, for thair remaneing fra the sermones on the Sabboth day, twa schillingis; and of ilk burges of gild and merchand, sex schillingis aucht pennies, for thair remaneing frome the sermone on the weik day; and of ilk craftisman maister and houshalder, thrie schillingis four pennies, for thair remaneing frome the sermone on the weik day. And gif the saidis persones, of the ranckis foirsaidis, beis fund culpabill in nocht frequenting the sermones as said is, and convict for the seuerall dayis absence, but lawfull excuse of infirmitie, seikness, or absence furthe of the toun, the persone giltie and convict to be secludit and debarrit frome all benefite of the kirk quhill he or she satisfie be appoyntment of the sessioun, and that but preiudice of the penalties foirsaidis. 8th October, 1617.

10*th December*, 1617.

Eodem die, Alexander Moresone, servus nobilis et prepotentis Domini Georgij Marchionis de Huntlye, comitis Engzie domini Gordoun et Badzenocht, etc. receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden, per compositionem viginti librarum in omnibus cum decano gilde et hoc ex gratia et rogatu dicti nobilis domini solut. quinque solidis in alba bursa et prestito per eundem juramento solito pro cuius residentia infra dictum [burgum] et taxationibus per eundem soluendis prout in dicto burgo taxari contigerint Georgius Cruikshank, burgensis dicti burgi devenit fideiussor et ipse obligauit se ad releuandum dictum suum fideiussorem.

11*th March*, 1618.

The quhilk day, anent the supplicatioun giwen in be John Dauidsone, eldest lauchfull sone to Johne Dauidsone, maltman, burges of this burght, makand mentioun that sen the tyme he come frome the musick schoole, he hes bestowit his tyme in service with his maister, Thomas Mylne, virginall macker, quhome he hes seruit seuin yeiris as prenteis, and thrie yeiris sensyne as a feit servand, as his indenture and discharge thairwpoun proportis, and now hauing learned the said calling, and being purposed (God willing) to duell and mak his residence in this his natiue toun, he thairfoir desyrit the counsall to admitt him frieman for vsing and exercising his said calling, and to respect his meane estate, in that he hes not

11th March, 1618.

present moyen to pay for his friedome, as at mair length wes contenit in his said supplicatioun, quhairwith the counsell being adwyisit, and hauing seine and considderit his maisterstick exhibite befoir thame, to witt, a pair of virginallis, and thairwith considdering that the said calling is not vnder a deacone, being bot latlie put in practice within this burght be the said Thomas Mylne his maister, quha compeirand personallie befoir the counsall, gawe his approbatioun to the said maisterstick as sufficient warkmanship, thairfoir the counsall hes admittit and resaued the said Johne Dauidsone, frieman of this burght, to vse and exerce the said calling, in macking of virginallis allanarlie, and na forder, and that *gratis* without payment of any compositioun, in respect he is a burges sone, not haweing moyen to pay for his friedome, and the said John gawe his aythe according to the forme.

8th April, 1618.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, considdering that Maister Henrie Buchan, burges of this burght, vpon the first day of Aprill instant, wes lauchfullie and ordourlie convict for chopping with the hand Willeame Gray, lait baillie, the day foirsaid, vpoun the shoulder, within the clos of vmquhill Mr. Gilbert Gray, and saying to him, in audience of the magistrattis and counsall, that the decreit that day pronuncit be the counsall aganis the said Mr. Henrie wes not the counsallis decreit, bot the said Willeames awin decreit, and gif he wer out of the towne the said Mr. Henrie suld dicht him; as also considdering that the said Mr. Henrie wes convict the said day for iniuring the said Willeame Gray, immediatelie thairefter, in the clerkis chalmer, the prowest and baillies being thair for the tyme sitting in judgement, in calling him febill swynger, as the act of his convictioun at mair length proportis; and heirwith the counsall vnderstanding that the said Mr. Henrie, be his forsaid speiches, not onlie hes iniured the said Willeame Gray, bot lykwayis the haill counsall, in querrelling thair decreit gewin that day aganis him, thairfoir the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, all in ane voice, findis that the said Mr. Henrie, for his contempt and indignitie foirsaid done to the said Willeame Gray, late baillie, and to the haill counsall, hes iustlie deservit the forfaultour and deprivatioun of his fredome and burgeschip of this burght; lykeas instantlie, the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, for the caus forsaid, dischargis and

deprywis the said Mr. Henrie of his fredome and burgeschip of this burght, and of all libertie and preuilege he may jois thairby heirafter, and ordanis the deane of gild to caus cloise up his buith door. Persones of counsall present: Sir Thomas Meingzeis, provest, Mr. David Rutherfurd, Mr. Alex^r. Cullen, George Nicolesone, and William Lowsoun, baillies, Paull Mengzies, Dauid Cargill, Johne Hay, Walter Robertsone, George Ricard, Mr. Alex^r. Jaffray, John Tullidaff, George Anderson, John Middletoun. 8th April, 1618.

3rd June, 1618.

The quhilk day, Thomas Watsoune, maister measone to the bigging of the wardhous, compeirand personallie, in presence of the prowast, baillies, and counsall, submittit and referrit himselff to thair determinatioun and modificatioun, quhat salbe rebaitit and defalcat to him of the soumes of money promeist to him for bigging of the said wardhous, be wertew of the contract past betuixt the toune and him thairanent, be resone the toune inlaikis wnbiggit of the said wardhous the fyift woult thairof, quhilk the said Thomas was obleist to hawe done be the conditioun of the said contract, and quhatsumeuer the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall sall rebait and defalk to the said Thomas, for the inlaik of the said fyift woult, he obleisses him to stand and abyde thairat, but reclamatioun, or in the counsallis option the said Thomas obleisses him to big of the townes commoun workis, proportionable, according to the said rebait, and the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall sall jnioyne.

13*th May*, 1618.

Eodem die, Adamus Gordoun de Park et Joannes Gordoun de Ardlogye, recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden, gratis, gratia consilii, prestito per eosdem solito juramento.

Eodem die, admissi fuerunt Magister Jacobus Skeyne de Waster Corss: ac etiam Jacobus Quhytfoord et Jacobus Smith servi honorabilis viri domini Jacobi Skeyne de Curriehill militis, vnius senatorum Collegii Justicie; necnon Robertus Couttis servus Magistri Jacobi Lautie, aduocati, ex rogatu speciali dicti domini Jacobi Skeyne.

15th Sept., 1618.

15th September, 1618.

The quhilk day, George Pyiper, and Alexander Andersone, wrichtis, compeirand sufficientlie in armour, ilkane with ane hagbute and baudileire and sword, wes ressauit and admittit friemen of thair said craft, and burgesses of this burght, ilk ane of thame for the soume off twentie merkis Scottis money, peyit be thame to the deane of gild, with this allwayis restrictioun and conditioun, that they sall vse and exerce thair said craft professit be thame allanerlie, and clame nor pretend no forder libertie, preuilege, nor friedome nor is sett doun and prescryuit to craftismen be the contract and indenture past betuixt the brether of gild and thame, in the yeir of God 1587 yeiris; and incais they or any of thame do in the contrare, being convict thairoff, to be depryuit and dischargit of his friedome, and all libertie and preuilege they may joice and bruik thairby in any tyme thaireftir, and gawe thair aytheis judiciallie on the premissis and remanent poyntis of the aythe giwen be burgesses of this burght the tyme of thair admissioun; lykas ilk ane of thame payit fyive schillingis in a quhyte purs, according to the forme vsit and wount.

30th September, 1618.

The said day, inrespect the townis commoun knockis, to witt, the kirk knok, tolbuyth knok, and college knok, ar out of all frame and ordour, and ar nocht sufficient and abill to serve the towne, pairtlie becaus they ar auld and worne, and pairtlie for want of skilfull men to attend thame, heirfoir it is thocht meit that the magistrattis wreitt southe with all diligence, and try quhair the best knockmacker may be had, and caus bring him vpoun the tounis chargis to this burght, and visite the knokis thairof, that sic of thame as may be mendit be accordingly done, and sic as will not mend, be maid new sa soone as the same can be convenientlie gottin done, and Robert Alexander, thesaurar, to deburse heiron as he salbe directit be the magistrattis, quhilkis debursementis salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

24th March, 1619.

The samen day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall appoyntis Paull Meingzeis, baillie, to wreitt to Dundie for four hundreth peice of frie stane for the wark of the wardhous, and to cause dress the same thair,

in some mesure, for the moir easie transportatioun thairof, and sic as he aggries to giwe for the saidis staines and for the fraucht thairoff, ordanes Robert Alexander, thesaurar, to deburse the same, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis. 24th March, 1619.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, it being menit to the prouest, baillies, and counsall be Maister Dauid Wedderburn, maister of the grammer schooll, and be Patrik Dauidsoun, maister of the musick schoole of this burght, that quhair a great many of thair scholaris sen the tyme of the dischargeing of thair thrie dayis play, quhilk they wer wount to gett at the begynning of everie quarter, hes maid no payment at all of thair ordinarie stipend and scholage, quhilk they ar bund and obleist to pay to thair maisteris quarterlie, and vtheris delayis the payment of thair scholage for a long seasone eftir the quarter come in, to the hurt and preiudice of the maisteris; for remeid heiroff, it is statute and ordanit be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, that in all tyme comeing everie scholar within any of the saidis schoollis ar and salbe bund and obleist to pay thair ordinar quarter stipend and scholage, quhilk they aucht to pay to thair maisteris, within fyifteine dayis at the farrest nixt eftir the begynning of the quarter, with certificatioun to sic as sal failsie in payment theiroff, the said space being bypast, that they salbe subiect and obleist in peyment of the dubill of the said scholage, and gif any scholar quhasoeuir, ather to burght or land, sall withstand this ordinance and repyne agains the same, he salbe expellit furthe of the schoole till he giwe satisfactioun to the maisteris, conforme to the mynd of this act in all poyntis.

9th May, 1619.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Mr. Willeame Moir, deane of gild, to deburse and pay the sowme of fourscoir merkis to Alex^r^. Wyiseman, measone, thairof fyiftie merkis for the repairing of the Gallowget port, and threttie merkis for repairing of the Justice and Futtie portis, as the counsall aggreit with him thairanent, quhilk soume sall be allowit to the said deane of gild in his comptis.

4th June, 1619.

The said day, the haill towne being convenit in the tolbuyth, for the

4th June, 1619.

maist pairt representand the haill body, being warnit thairto be the handbell passand throw the haill rewis of the toun, quhairwpoun the berar maid faith, it wes exponit to thame be Sir Thomas Meingzeis, prouest, that the counsall and sessioun of the kirk of this burght hawing adwyiseit how the poore peopill that are daylie beggaris within the same mey be enterteineit and sustenit be commoun contributioun, and saiffit heireftir frome begging on the streittis or elsquhair, and for this effect hawing causit mack a cataloge and roll of all the beggaris nameis, both men, wemen, and bairnis within this burght, they find be thair estimatioun that fyftie merkis money mey interteaine thame weiklie, and saiff thame frome begging, quhilk in the yeir will amont to the soume of twa thowsand sex hundreth merkis, and appoyntit the said contributioun to be payit as followis, for the space of ane yeir to cum till the matter be essayit how the same will work, viz.: ane thowsand pundis to be imposit be way of taxatioun vpon the haill inhabitantis of the towne, to be payit at twa seuerall termis, and the rest, to wit, ellevin hundreth merkis to be payit be the contributiones to be gottin the tyme of the ministratioun of the commvnioun, and quhair that will not serve, the eareand to be suppliet out of the collectionis for the poore at the kirk dooris, as the act of counsall sett doun thairanent vpoun the secund day of Junij instant at mair length proportis, and thairfoir inquired of the toun, convenit as said is, gif they wald condiscend and aggrie to the courss foirsaid, sett doun be the counsall and sessioun for interteinement of the poore for a yeir to cum, quha all in ane voice but contradictioun or oppositioun, (except only Mr. Thomas Meingzeis, quha opponit himselff to the said courss) consentit and aggriet to be stentit and taxt for the said soume of ane thowsand pundis, to be applyit to the vse foirsaid of the interteinement of the poore, and to saiff thame frome begging, and ar content to be stentit for the said soume for the space of ane yeir allanerlie, to be payit at twa seurall termis; and for that effect instantlie electit, nominat, and chuiseit George Nicolsone, Dauid Cargill, Henrie Forbes, Alexander Andersone, Dauid Aidye, Johne Tullidaff, Henrie Patrie, Alexander Ramsay, youngar, Thomas Burnet, Robert Cruckshank, eldar, Johne Merser, saidler, George Bruce and Thomas Goiff, tailzeour, taxtaris and stentaris, to stent the said soume of ane thowsand pundis vpoun the haill inhabitantis of this burght, frie and vnfrie, to be payit at twa termis as said is, quhilkis stentaris acceptit the stenting of the said sowme in

and vpoun thame, and wer sworne to stent and distribute the same equallie amongis the nichtbouris according to thair knawledge, and the said Mr. Thomas Meingzeis dissassentit that any taxatioun be imposit vpoun the town for the caus foirsaid, bot that a voluntar contributioun be crawit to that effect. 4th June, 1619.

5th June, 1619.

The said day, in presence of Thomas Forbes and Gilbert Cullen, baillies, Margrat Blakburne, spous of Mr. Andro Aidye, principall of the new college of Aberdein, wes convict and put in amerciament of court be the depositionis of diuers famous witnesses, admittit, sworn, and examined, for dinging and stricking Janet Mackye, servand to James Birny, in Tarves, on the face to the effusioun of her bluid, to foirbearre; hir vnlaw modifiet to ten pundis, to be peyit to the dean of gild, and fywe merkis to the pairtie dung.

4th August, 1619.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall hawing ressaued advertisement that my Lord Duke of Lennox is to be in this burght about the xii of August instant, quhair his grace is to remane some few dayis for his pastime and recreatioun, thairfoir they hawe appoyntit the best and most convenient ludging that may be had within this burght to be takin for his Grace resset, and withall they hawe appoyntit prouisioun of wynes, spyceries, and all vther prouisioun requisite for halding of his Grace hous during his remaining in this burght, to be furnished and prepaired on the townis chargis, the cair of the quhilk busines is comittit be the counsall to George Nicolsone and Mr. Johne Mortimer, quhome they appoynt to sie all thingis ordorlie done as the weycht of the bussines sall require, for the honour of my Lord Dukes Grace and the creditt of the town, and quhat salbe requisite to be debursit heirwpoun, the counsall ordanis Robert Alexander, thesyrer, to deburse the same, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis, and gif it sall fall out that my Lord Dukes Grace will hald his awin hous himselff, and will not suffer the towne to mak the chargis thairof, in that cais the counsall thinkis meit to giwe his Grace, with the nobillmen and barronis that sall accumpanie him, the banqueit in the best forme, that the same may be maid on the townis chargis, the cair quhairoff is siclyk committit to the saidis George Nicolsone and Mr.

4th August, 1619. Johne Mortimer. Personis of counsall present, Sir Thomas Meingzeis, prouest; Robert Johnstoun, Gilbert Cullen, baillies; Mr. Alexander Cullen, Willeame Gray, Willeam Lowsoun, George Nicolsone, Mr. Johne Mortimer, Mr. Willeam Moir, Robert Alexander, Dauid Aidye, Thomas Gray, George Ricard, and Gilbert Wilguis.

14*th August*, 1619.

The quhilk day, ane nobill and potent Erle, Robert, Erle of Lowthian, James Ker, his brother-german.

Alexander Lord Levingstoun, and Sir James Levingstoun, his brother-german.

Simon Lord Fraser of Lovett;

Adame Gordoun of Auchindoun;

Laurence and Johne Gordounis, sonis to the Marquis of Huntlie;

Sir Lachlane Mackintosche of Torphestoun, knycht;

Sir Simon Fraser of Inverallachie, knycht;

Alexander Fraser of Techmurie;

Robert Monro of Foullis;

Thomas Stewart of Gastoun;

Richard Cran, Ludouick Carteall, Alexander Hatlie, Walter Stewart, seruitoris to my Lord Duke of Lenox;

Arthure Nesmyth, Patrick Bruce, Willeam Wood, Oliver Willeames, Willeam Mair, seruitoris to the Marquis of Huntlie;

James Andersone, seruiture to my Lord Gordoun;

Andro Gallant and Alester Baillie of Dachfour;

Wer all creat burgesses of gild of the burght of Abirdeine.

18*th August*, 1619.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Maister Thomas Johnestoun, deane of gild, to caus the officaris poynd the absentis fra the lait wappounschaw of this burgh, quhilk held vpon the nynt day of August instant, ilk absent for ane vnlaw of fyue pundis, exceptand alwayis the poore sort of people, quhilk had nather armis nor apparell fitting for musturing, and exceptand lykwayis sic of the nicht-bouris as wer absent out of the toune vpoun necessarie caussis, quhilkis persones ar declairit to be frie of any vnlaw, and the saidis vnlawis to be bestowit be the said deane of gild for defraying of sic commoun

charges teynding to the townis honour and credit, as wes maid be the youthis of the toun, that maid seruice with muskattis the fyift of August last, being a day dedicat for geiving thankis to God for his Maiesties preservatioun from the conspiracie of Gowrie, and vpoun the twalt of August, at the Duke of Lenox his graces entrie to this burgh, so far furthe as the saidis vnlawis will extend. 18th August, 1619.

4th September, 1619.

Gulielmus Cunnynghame de Cunnynghameheid;

Thomas Skeyne, filius legitimus secundo genitus, honorabilis viri domini Jacobi Skeyne de Curriehill, militis, vnius senatorum collegii justicie S.D.N. Regis;

Magister Alexander Gibsone, filius legitimus, primogenitus et heres apparens, Magistri Alexandri Gibsone de Durie, vnius clericorum supremi senatus Scotie;

Magister Robertus Craig, advocatus, frater germanus domini Ludovici Craig de Ricardtoun, militis;

Joannes Dicksone, servus Magistri Alexandri Gibsone de Durie, vnius clericorum supremi senatus Scotie;

Georgius Gibsone, servus Thome Crombie, scribe signeto regio ac burgensis dicti burgi;

Jacobus Archibald, servus Magistri Alexandri Gibsone, Junioris de Durie, et Dauid Manteith, servus domini de Cunnyngameheid,

Recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

20th September, 1619.

The quhilk day, these nobillmen, baronis, and gentillmen eftir-named, to witt:—

Johne Lord Yester. James Dicksoun, and Willeame Hammiltoun, his Lordship's seruitureis;

Coline Lord Kintaill. Hew Barclay, and James Anderson, his Lordship's servandis;

Sir Robert Gordoun, tutor of Sutherland; Hew Gordoun of Cultis; and Adame Gordoun, seruitor to the said Sir Robert;

Willeame Settoun of Meldrum, Willeame Ogilwie, George Settoun at the milne of Balcarne, Willeame Setton and Gilbert Banerman, servandis to the said Laird of Meldrum.

20th Sept., 1619.

Thomas Fraser of Sheythine;
Thomas Burnet of Leyis;
Robert Innes of Balvenie;
Johne Leslie of Wardes;
Maister Robert Burnet;
Dauid Settoun, brother to the laird of Parbroth;
Johne Ogilwie;
Maister Johne Drummond;
Robert Quhyte, Robert Bruce;
Johne Meingzeis, Mr. James Inglis, Hew Mackgill, Maister Johne Settoun, Johne Quhyte, Thomas Dryisdell, Ila Herauld, James Espline, Johne Gordoun, Johne Waldgew, George Fergussoun, and George Dumbar, all servandis to ane nobill and potent lord, Alexander, Erle of Dumfermeling, lord Fywie and Urquhart, gryt chancellar of Scotland;
James Settoun, brother to the gudeman of Mowny;
Robert Settoun;
Alexander Settoun, brother to Willeam Settoun of Blair;
Alexander Forbes, George Abircrombie, and Johne Gordoun, seruitures to my Lord Gordon;
Wer all creat, maid, and admittit burgesses of gild of this burght;

Eodem die, Georgius Forbes, et Thomas Forbes, filii legitimi Gulielmi Forbes de Tolquhone, burgensis dicti burgi;
Laurentius Skeyne, filius legitimus secundo genitus Magistri Patricii Skeyne, burgensis dicti burgi;
Jacobus Farchar, servus Magistri Thome Johnstoun, decani gilde burgi de Abirden;
Recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde eiusdem, &c.

27th October, 1619.

The quhilk day, forsamekill as ane edict being lauchfullie serwit, tuicheing the presentatioun and admissioun of the bursaris fundat within the college of this burght be vmquhill Mr. Duncan Liddell, doctor of phisick, furth of his landis of Petmedden, be vertew quhairof the kin and freyndis of the said vmquhill Doctor Liddell, quha had any chyldrene that had past thair courss in grammer and wer apt and meit for the college, and failzieing of thame, the children of honest and poore decayit burgess

or craftismen of the said burght, quha had lykwayis past thair courss in grammar and wer redie for the college, wer lauchfullie summoundit to ane certane day bygane, to haue compeirit in the said college to be tryit in thair maneris and literature if they wer apt for any of the saidis burssis, and nane compeirand except Johne Chalmer, sone to Mr. George Chalmer, minister at Dumbennan, burges of this burght, and sumtyme ane of the ministeris thairof and regent in the said college, and Nicol Blak, sone to Johne Blak, burges also of this burght, quha being put to tryell be the rector, deane of facultie, and regents of the said college, wer fund both of them to be qualified to enter in the college, and consequently for twa of the said burssis, seing four of the saidis burssis ar presentlie vacand, and that nane hes beine admittit thairto thir twa yeiris bygaine, inrespect quhairoff the prouest, baillies, and counsall ordanis the saidis Johne Chalmer and Nicol Blak to be admitted to twa of the saidis burssis during thair four yeiris courss in philosophie in the said college, and to hawe yeirlie during the said space the prouisioun allotit to the saidis bursaris be vertew of the foundatioun, to witt, ilk ane of thame fourteine bollis victuall, halff meill, halff malt, conforme to the fundatioun, and ordanis thair presentatioun and admissioun to be past and subscribit be the magistrattis according to the ordour. 27th October, 1619.

The prowest, baillies, and counsall ordanis George Nicolsone, baillie, to caus print the edict seiking to the college a learned mathematician, and send copies thairoff to the vniuersities of Sanct Androis, and Abirdein, and to the colleges of Glasgow and Edinburght, becaus the counsall thinkis meit and expedient that the same be imprinted, and sic as he deburssis thairon to be refoundit to him againe.

12*th November*, 1619.

The said day, Robert King in Auchinleyth, Johne Young, his servitour, on the ane pairt, James Irving of the Kirktown of Straquhan, and Robert Irving in Cormellie, brother-german, on the vther pairt, wer convict and put in amerciment of court be vertew of thair awin confessiounis, for trubling of the toun this day, within the hous of Thomas Kellie, baxter, drawing of swordis and persewing vtheris thairwith; lykeas, the said Robert Irving wes convict be the depositiouns of diuerss famous witnesses admittit, sworne, and examined, for saying he suld put a dirk in Archi-

12th Nov., 1619.

bald Mair, officiar, and all vther, inhabitant of this burght, quhome he apprehendit outwith the toun, and that he suld put the haill toun in fyre; to foirbear; and the saidis personis wer ordanit to be committed to ward, thairin to remayne ay and quhill ilk ane of thame find sufficient cautioun and seuertie for peyment to the deane of gild of sic vnlaw as the counsall sall modifie thame to pey for thair said convictioun, and that they sall keip his Maiesties peace within this burght, and to all the inhabitantis thairoff, haill friedom and jurisdictioun of the samen, ilkane of thame vnder the paine of fywe hundreth merkis; according to the quhilk, Thomas Cargill became cautioner for the saidis Robert King and Johne Young for peyment of thair vnlawis, and Johne Gordoun, eldar of Craig of Auchindoir, James King, sumtyme of Barra, Willeame and James Kingis, his soneis, become actit and obleist, coniunctly and seuerallie, for the saidis Robert King and Johne Young for keiping his Maiesties peace in maner foirsaid, vnder the paine aboue specifeit, and the saidis Robert and Johne actit thame to releiwe thair saidis cautioners; ilkane of thair vnlawis modifeit as followis, to witt, the vnlaw of the said Robert Irving xl. lib., the vnlaw of the said James Irving xx. lib., and the vnlaw of the said Robert King and his man, ten pundis.

10*th February*, 1620.

The quhilk day, anent the petition geuin in to the prowest, baillies, and counsall, be Maister Dauid Wedderburne, maister of the grammer schoole of this burgh, makand mentioun that quhairas thair wisdomes exactis a dewtie of him on the ane pairt, so it will not offend thame on the vther pairt that he be particular in regrating his estate, the treuth quhairoff is, he hes not ane stipend quhilk may encourage ane honest man to walk in sic a toillsum callin with chearfulnes; the multitude of schooles everiequhar, the burdine of a familie, unknawin to him of befoir, the darth of the tyme, so cutteth away any litile thing that is gottin, that or the twa pairt of the quarter be expired, he seis evidently no correspondense betuixt his extraordinar paynis and the ordinar reward; thairfoir that it wald pleas thair wisdomes, with quhat affectioun they wald wishe the wark to stand and go fordward, to sie also with the same affectioun how be honest meanes the work may be so vnder proppet, that without difficulties and lettis ane honest man may bear out that heavie panes quhilk must be vndertakin for the faithfull discharge of that calling;

and for this effect, and in regard of his bypast serwice, and for the good pruiff of his trawellis quhilk hes beine presentlie gewin befor the visitouris of the schooles, they will sie that in sum mesure he may liwe as vther scholaris in vther professionis, as at mair length was contenit in the said petition; quhilk being red in counsall, and thairwith the prowest, baillies, new and auld counsallis being maturelie adwyseit, efter gude deliberatioun, they find, for the reasonis aboue mentionat, the said Mr. Dauid his present prouisioun for his seruice and charge foirsaid, not to be correspondent to the weyght and burdine of his labouris, and thairfoir, for suppliment and helpe of his means, whereas at the present he hes onlie ten schillingis in the quarter of everie townis bairne for his salarie and scholage, they ordaine him to hawe thrietteine schillingis four pennies quarterlie in all tyme cumeing for everie tounis bairne, quhilk salarie of thirettein schillingis four pennies for ilk tounis bairne, togidder with the said Mr. Dauid, his present stipend off fourscoir pundis peyit to him yeirlie be the toun out of thair commoun gude, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, declairis to be in full satisfactioun of all stipend, scholage, or any other benefit quhatsumeuir the said Mr. Dauid may crawe of the toune, or of the tounis bairnis, for his serwice as maister of thair grammer schoole in ony tyme comeing; and forder, becaus at the earnest desyre of the magistrattis and counsall, for propagatioun of learning, the said Mr. Dauid hes vndertakin, lykeas, be thir presentis (wpoun the conditioune vnderwritten,) he vndirtackis and bindis himselff, sa lang as his health and habilitie will permitt, to teache ane lessoun of humanitie aines everie weeke in tyme comeing, within the college of this burght, out of sic authoris, at sic hours, and after sic method as salbe injoyned to him be the counsall, and thairwith to compose in Latine, both in prose and verse, quhatsumeuir purpose or theme concerning the commoun effairis of the toune, ather at hame or afield, as he salbe requyred be any of the magistrattis or clerk, in tyme comeing; thairfoir, for teacheing the said humanitie lessoun, and for composing in Latine of all matteris concerning the toune, *toties quoties*, as they sall occur, and as he salbe requyred, the saidis prowest, baillies, new and auld counsallis, gewis and grantis to the said Mr. Dauid, by and attour his ordinar stipend forsaid, gewin to him for teaching of thair grammer schoole, the soume of fourscoir merkis yeirlie, to be payit to him be the

10th Feb., 1620.

10th Feb. 1620.

thesaurer of this burght, at tua vsuall termis in the yeir, Witsonday and Martimes in wynter, be equall portionis during the will and plesure of the counsall, and the said Mr. Dauid his guid seruice and diligence in the said employment allanarlie, and na farder, the first termis payment thairof begynnand at the feast of Witsonday nixt to cum, in this instant yeir of God j^{m} vi^{c} and twentie yeiris, and so furthe, yeirlie and termlie thairefter, during the councellis will allanarlie, and with conditioun lykwais, that the said Mr. Dauid sall nawayis desert nor leave his said charge and functioun, nor withdraw himselff thairfra to any vther functioun or place quhatsumeuir during his lyftyme, without the expres consent and guidwill of the prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, had and obtenit thairto, and incais of the said Mr. Dauid, his inhabilitie, age, or sicknes, quhairthrow he might not discharge a sufficient dewtie in the said office himselff, in that cais, he salbe haldin to furneis ane sufficient qualifeit persone, quha sall content the magistrattis and counsall, to occupie his place, and in sua doing, the said Mr. Dauid to continew maister of the said schoole, and to injoy the haill stipend and previlegis thairof, he satisfeing alwayis on his awin chairgis and expenssis the persone substitute be him for his labouris and trawellis, quhilk burdine foirsaid, with the conditiounes afoir specifeit, the said Mr. Dauid personally present, acceptit and voluntarlie bindis and obleissis himselff to the performance thairof, faithfullie in all poyntis as apperteines, as God sall assist him be His grace, and incais any defect be fund in dischairge of his dewtie, ather as maister of the grammer schoole, or in teacheing of the said lessoun of humanitie, the prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burght, sall hawe alwayis absolute powar to censure him thairfoir, and deprive him of the said benefite at thair arbitriment, inrespect he hes the same of the toune vpoun gude deserwing and during thair will and plesure allanerlie, and no vtherwayis, and vpon conditioune that he never burdine the toune nor counsall heirefter with any augmentatioun, ather of his scholage or his stipend. Persones of the new and auld counsallis present: Sir Thomas Mengzeis of Cultis, knycht, prowest, Mr. Dauid Rutherfuird, Willeame Gray, Willeame Lowsoun, George Nicolsone, baillies; Thomas Forbes, Robert Johnstoun, Mr. Johne Mortymer, Mr. Alex^{r}. Jaffray, Alex^{r}. Pantoun, Mr. Mathew Lummysden, George Andersone, Johne Tullidaff, Alex^{r}. Leslie, and Willeame Roust.

16*th February*, 1620.

16th Feb., 1620.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, appoyntis Frayday, weiklie, in the morning, immediatly eftir the ending of the morning prayeris, for teaching the lessoun of humanitie in the college of this burght, and till farder adwyisement, ordanis the ane weik rethorick to be teachit, and the vther weik humanitie, out of sic select authoris as salbe inioyned, to begin on Frayday the tuentie-fyift of Februar instant, and ane edict to be servit for that effect on Sonday nixt, both at the kirk of this burght, and the Auldtoun kirk and college.

25*th February*, 1620.

The said day, findis that Margrat Collison, relict of vmquhill Walter Colliesone; Bessie Skeyne, relict of vmquhill Thomas Forbes, and Marioun Beanis, relict of vmquhill Willeame Gray, hes contraveint the act and ordinance of counsall sett downe be consent of the haill commvnitie, vpoun the 22 September, 1612: be the quhilk it is ordanit, that no desert suld be from thyne furth, at any lykwalkis in this burght, of quhatsumewir ranck or degrie the defunct be of, bot onlie bread, drink, and cheiss, vndir the paine of twentie pundis *toties quoties*, to be payit be the contravenar to the deane of gild of this burght, in swa far as the foirnamed personis, and everie ane of thame at the lykwakis of thair husbandis had succoris and desert, contrar the tenour of the said act, quhilk wes confest be Mr. Patrick Skeyne compeirand for the said Bessie Skeyn, his dochter; be Walter Collison compeirand for the said Margrat Collison, his mother; and be Willeame Gray, baillie, compeirand for the said Marioun Beanis, and thairfoir convictis thame for braik of the said act, and adjudgis everie ane in the said vnlaw of tuentie pundis, to be payit to the dean of gild.

27*th February*, 1620.

Eodem die, Capitaneus Arthurus Forbes, frater germanus Reverendi in Christo patris Patricii Abredonensis episcopi, et Magister Patricius Gordoun, agens S.D.N. regis in regno Polonie, recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

1*st March*, 1620.

The quhilk day, the prouest, new and auld counsallis, considdering that

1st March, 1620.

not onlie the youth that ar presentlie at traynning vp within the college of this burght, bot lykwayis the credite and estimatioun of the said college is michtelie preiudgit for want of a primar thir thrie monethis past, since the tyme that the said office waked be demissioun of Mr. Andro Aidye, last primar thairof, and heirwith considdering that Maister Andro Ramsay, minister at Edinburght, quho wes socht both be the Erle Marschell, patrone, and be the towne, to hawe suppliet the place, is stayed and deteined at his ministrie, and transplantatioun altogidder refuissit him; for thir caussis, and inrespect, be the erectioun and foundation of the said college, the primar is appoyntit to teache divinitie, the saidis prowest, baillies, new and auld counsallis, adwyiseing how the place salbe best filled vpe be a worthie man, both for the benefite and instructioun of the youth, and for purchesing credit to the college, thinkis it meit and expedient that Mr. Willeame Forbes, doctour in divinitie, and ane of the ordinar ministeris of this burght, salbe ernestlie delt with to accept vpoun him to be primar of the said college, with this alwayis conditioun, that he continew in his ministerie in teacheing twa sermonis everie weik as he dois presentlie, ffor quhais better furtherance and help for that ministratioun, thinkis it meit that thair salbe a fourt regent prowyidit to teache the hie class, to disburdine the primar altogidder thairoff; as lykwayis, that the said Mr. Willeame salbe fred and disburdeinit off macking all extraordinar mareagis and baptismes that ar not celebrat immediatlie eftir sermone, quhilkis salbe suppliet be his twa collegis, Mr James Ros, and Mr. Archibald Blakburne, swa that the said Mr. Willeame Forbes sall hawe onlie the cair and charge of the discipline of the college, and teacheing of theologie thairin, and na farder. Personis of the new and auld counsallis present: Sir Thomas Mengzeis, prouest; Mr Dauid Rutherfurd, Willeame Lowsoun, Willeame Gray, baillies; Paull Mengzeis, Thomas Forbes, Robert Johnstoun, Alexander Rutherfurd, Mr Johne Mortimer, Johne Hay, Mr. Willeame Moir, Mr. Thomas Johnstoun, James Ray, Dauid Cargill, Henrie Forbes, Willeame Forbes, Alexander Pantoun, Thomas Cargill, Johne Tullidaff, Gilbert Wilguis, Mr. Willeame Roust.

1*st August*, 1620.

Quo die, Reverendus in Christo pater, Patricius, miseratione diuina Abirdonensis Episcopus, Magister Joannes Forbes, eius frater germanus ac

diuini verbi preco in ecclesia Middelburgensi; Gulielmus Forbes de Corss, filius legitimus primo genitus dicti reverendi patris; et Magister Joannes Forbes, sacre theologie professor in collegio regali Abirdonense ac filius legitimus secundo genitus eiusdem in reuerendi patris; et Joannes Forbes, familiaris servus ac consanguineus ipsius reuerendi patris; recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden de communi omnium comburgensium eiusdem consensu, et hoc gratis, gratia magistratuum et consulum dicti burgi, solutis per quemlibet eorum quinque solidis preposito in alba bursa, vt moris est, et prestito per eosdem juramento solito. 1st August, 1620.

Eodem die, Magister Gulielmus Forbes, sacre theologie doctor, vnus diuini verbi preconum in ecclesia huius burgi, ac Primarius Academie Mariscallane Abirdonensis, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde dicti burgi, jure paternitatis, solutis preposito quinque solidis in alba bursa, vt moris est, et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, Magister Archibaldus Blakburne, vnus diuini verbi preconum huius burgi, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde eiusdem, gratis, gratia magistratuum et consulum dicti burgi, solutis preposito quinque solidis in alba bursa, vt moris est, et prestito per eundem juramento solito.

Eodem die, Magister Gulielmus Dauidsone, filius legitimus quondam Magistri Alexandri Dauidson, in Kyntor, et Joannes Borthwick, seruus venerabilis viri Magistri Jacobi Sandielandis, commissarii Abirdonen., recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gildi burgi de Abirden gratis, gratia consilii solutis per quemlibet eorum quinque solidis preposito in alba bursa et prestito per eosdem juramento solito.

14*th August*, 1620.

Eodem die, Magister Andreas Skeyne, frater germanus Alexandri Skeyne, de eodem, Magister Dauid Wedderburne, filius legitimus primogenitus quondam Gulielmi Wedderburne, burgensis de Abirden;
Magister Thomas Mitchell, minister verbi Dei in ecclesia de Vdny, et Alexander Gareauche, filius legitimus Jacobi Gareauche de Kinstair;
Recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses burgi de Abirden, &c.

10th April, 1621.

10*th April*, 1621.

The quhilk day, the haill town, both burgesses of gild and craftismen, being convenit within the tolbuith at thair head court, representand the haill bodie of the towne, it wes exponit to them be Maister Dauid Rutherfurd, prowest, that vpoun the fourt day of Junij, 1619, the prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burght then for the tyme, with aduyise of the commvnitie, having advyiseit how the poore peopill that wer daylie beggaris within this burght micht be interteained and keiped thairefter from begging, and for that effect having causit mack a catolog and roll of all the beggaris nameis, baith men, women, and bairneis within this burght, conforme to the ordinar prescrywit be the sevintie-fourt act of his Maiesties sext parliament, it wes fund, eftir dew consideratioun of the number of the saidis beggaris, that fyiftie merkis money or thairby micht interteaine thame weiklie and saiff thame from begging, amounting in the yeir to the soume of twa thowsand sex hundreth merkis, quhilk soume wes ordanit to be peyit in maner following, viz., ane thowsand pundis thairof be taxatioun, to be imposit yeirlie on the haill inhabitantis of this burght, and to be payit the ane halff at Witsonday, and the vther halff at Martimes, and the soume of allevin hundreth merkis to be payit be the contributionis to be collectit yeirlie the tyme of the ministratioun of the sacrament of the Lordis supper, and gif the saidis contributioneis sall not amount yeirly to the said soume of allevin hundreth merkis, sic as suld be wanting thairof wes ordanit to be supplied out of the collectiones for the poore at the kirk durris, as the said act and ordinance sett doun thairanent be adwyise of the haill town, of the dait foirsaid, at lenght proportis, conforme to the quhilk conclusioun tackin at the tyme foirsaid, present ordour wes then giwen for putting the same in executioun, lyckas continewallie sensyn, praised be God the wark hes hed a gude and happie succes, sa that the haill poor peopill within this burght that wer then beggaris, haue beine now almost these thrie yeiris past interteained and keiped from begging be the weiklie contributionis giwen to thame according to thair seuerall rankis and necessities, and thairby not onlie hes the poore resaved great contentment, bot lykwayis the mynd of the said act of parliament hes takin effect and executioun, sa far as concernis this burght, to the honour of God, the comfort of the poore, and to the credit and commendatioun of the toun, and thairfoir the said Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, prowest, inquyirit of the toun, convenit as said is, gif the

said work, being of itselff both godlie, cheritabill, and honest, groundit vpoun the word of God, and having alredie takin suche a begynning and progres within this burght, sall stand and continew eftir the forme and ordour alredie sett doun and established for that effect, and gif accordinglie they willbe content to be stentit yeirlie in tyme comeing for the said soume of ane thowsand pundis, for defraying a pairt of the chargis of the said work, and the toun being convenit in their head court, representand the haill bodie as said is, they all in ane voice, but oppositioun or contradictioun, consentit and aggriet to be stentit and taxed for the said soume of ane thowsand pundis, to be peyit yeirlie at twa vsuall termis in the yeir, Witsonday and Martimes in winter, be equall portionis, to be applyit *pro tanto* sa far as the same mey be expendit, to the vse foirsaid of the interteainement of the poore of this burght, to saiff thame frome begging, to indure for this present yeir, Jaj. vi. and tuentie and ane yeiris, and siclyck yeirlie in tyme comeing, ay and quhill the ordour foirsaid established for mantenance of the poore be dischargit, be consent of the haill towne to be convenit in the tolbuith, lyckas for this effect they obleist thamselffis to chuis taxtaris and stentaris yeirlie in tyme comeing for stenting the said soume amongis the haill inhabitantis, to be payit at twa termis foirsaidis for the vse aboue specefeit, and ar content that letteris off horning on ane singill charge of thrie dayis be direct heirwpoun be delyverance of the lordis of counsall and session, chargeing the haill inhabitantis of this burght to mack payment yeirlie of the said stent of ane thowsand pundis, ilk ane for thair awin pairtis, conforme to the stent rollis alredie sett doun, and to be sett doun and giwen out thairanent, both for bygaines, sic as is restand, auchtand, vnpayed thairof sen the said fourt day of Junij, 1619, and siclyck yeirlie in tyme comeing, sa lang as the said ordour sall indure and remane vndischargit, be consent of the haill towne in maner aboue writtin, quhairwpoun the said Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, prowest, askit act of court and instrumentis. 10th April, 1621.

6th June, 1621.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall considdering the inciuill forme of behaweour of a great manye wemen in this burght, of gude qualitie, quha resortis both to kirk and mercat with thair playddis about thair headis, and be thair exampill the meaner sort of wemen vses the samen forme of incivilitie, quhilk gewis offence to strangeris and

6th June, 1621.

occasioun to thame to speik reprochefullie of all wemen generallie within this burght; for remeid quhairof, it is statute and ordanit that na wemen within this burght of quhatsumeuir rank, qualitie, or degrie they be of, presvme or tak vpoun hand to resort to kirk or mercat with thair playddis about thair heidis, vndir the paines following, to be exactit of the contravenar without fauour, *toties quoties:* viz. xiii. sh. iiij. d. of the wyiff of ilk burges of gild, and sex sh. aucht d. of ilk craftisman, and this act to be intimat out of the pulpit of baith the kirkis on Sonday nixt, and thaireftir to hawe effect and executioun in tyme comeing.

14*th March*, 1622.

Eodem die, Gulielmus Forbes, et Joannes Forbes, pupilli, filii legitimi venerabilis viri Magistri Gulielmi Forbes, sacre theologie doctoris, ac vnius divini verbi Dei preconum, apud burgum de Abirden atque burgensis prefati burgi;

Magister Gulielmus Cargill, filius legitimus quondam Magistri Thome Cargill, preceptoris schole grammaticalis Abirdonensis ac burgensis dicti burgi;

Gulielmus Chalmerlane, filius legitimus Petri Chalmerlane, civis Londonensis in Anglia, et Henricus Moresone, olim balliuus ac burgensis burgi de Edinburght;

Recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses et fratres gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

3*rd April*, 1622.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, new and auld counsallis, haveand considderatioun of the painfull labouris and trawellis takin be Mr. James Ross, ane of the ordinar ministeris of this burght, in the discharge of his said office and functioun of the ministrie, alsweill in preacheing of the word of God and ministratioun of the sacramentis, as in visitatioun of the seik and exercise of discipline, and of his dewitiefull careage and behaweour everie way in his said functioun, and with all considdering that his present stipend, quhilk is sex hundreth merkis, with fyiftie merkis for his house maill, and ane chalder of coillis yeirlie, is too meane a provisioun for him, be reasone of the iniquitie of tyme and the darth of all houshold furniture, he having the charge and burdine of wyiff and bairnis, with ane great familie, thairfoir they all in ane voice, without

oppositioun or contradictioun, votit, consentit, and aggreit, that vpoun the conditiones following his stipend salbe eikit and augmentit, with the soume of ane hundreth merkis money yeirlie, makand in the haill the soume of fywe hundreth pundis, togidder with ane chalder of coillis, to be payit to him yeirlie be the thesaurar of this burght for the tyme, at Witsonday and Martimes in wynter, be equall portionis: the first termis payment of the said augmentatioun to begin at the feast of Witsonday nixt to cum in this instant yeir of God, 1622, with this allwayis conditioun, that the foirsaid stipend of fywe hundreth pundis and ane chalder of coillis yeirlie, is, and salbe, in full satisfactioun of all stipend, house maill, or any vther benefite quhatsoevir the said Mr. James mey ask or crawe of the toun in tyme comeing, during the haill tyme of his service in the ministrie within this burght, and that he sall teache thryis in the week vntill the vacant rowme of the third minister be filled vpe, and thaireftir to teache twyis at least everie week, and oftner as occasioun and necessitie sall require; and the said Mr. James Ross being personallie present in counsall, acceptit of the said stipend with the qualitie and conditioun aboue mentioned. Persones of the counsallis present, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, provest, Paull Meingzeis, George Nicolsone, Willeame Lowsone, baillies; Mr. Patrick Dwn, Mr. Alexander Cullen, Robert Johnestoun, Thomas Forbes, Mr. Johne Mortimer, Henrie Forbes, Willeame Forbes, George Ricard, Mr. Alexander Jaffray, Alexander Pantoun, Johne Tullidaff, George Anderson, Walter Robertsone, Mr. Mathew Lummysden, Robert Keyth, Gilbert Wilguis, and Willeame Andersone. 3rd April, 1622.

25th April, 1622.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall dewyisit and ordanit the soume of foirscoir pundis Scottis money to be payit be the thesaurar of this burght quarterly, at four termis in the yeir, at the begynning of ilk quarter, to Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, maister of the grammer schoole, for the interteainement of Nathaniel Welsche, sone to vmquhill Mr. Johne Welsche, minister at Air, at his bedding and buirding, and for washing of his claithis, and that yeirlie induring the space of four yeiris, off the first and reddiest of the profeit and annuall rent of twa thousand merkis, quhilk Mr. Patrik Copland yet intendis to send to the vse of the college, according to his missiue letter direct be him for that effect to the

25th April, 1622.

saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, of the dait at Londoun, the twelft day of March last bypast, and in the meanetyme, quhill the said money cum, ordanis George Ricard, present thesaurar, to pey to the said Mr. Dauid the first quarters peyment, to wit, twentie pundis in hand, be ressoun of the said Nathaniel Welsche, entrie this day to his hous, and swa furthe quarterlie thairefter, to be ansuerit be the thesaurer of this burght for the tyme, of the said soume during the said space, quhilk salbe allowit to thame in thair comptis; lyckas, also, sic as it suld happin the said Mr. Dauid to bestow necessarlie during the said space, for furnisching of claitheis to the said Nathaniel, and mending of the same, the councell ordanit the same to be repayit againe to him vpoun ane iust compt, to be giwen in to thame thairanent; with the quhilk Nathaniel Welsche, the said Mr Dauid wes content and acceptit him in buirding, as said is, for the yeirlie buird, and vpoun conditiones aboue writtin, and ay and so long as the said Nathaniel Welsche remaneis in buirding with the said Mr. Dauid.

15th May, 1622.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis Thomas Watsone, maister measone, to be employit in all diligence in the wark of the tolbuith steppill, and to be send for to that effect, and to enter him to hew the aisler laitlie brocht frome Kingudy to the said wark; and as Robert Johnestoun, maister of wark, sall aggrie with the said Thomas, ordanis George Ricard, thesaurer, to satisfie him accordinglie, quhilk salbe allowit to the said George in his comptis.

3rd July, 1622.

The prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis the sowme of ane thousand merkis to be borrowit of the hospitall money from Johne Tullidaff, present maister thairof, quhilk sowme they ordane the said Johne to deliuer to Robert Johnestoune, maister of wark to the bigging of the tolbuith steppill, to be deburssit be him on the said wark, and he to be comptabill of his deburssments to the counsall as he sall be requyred; Lykas, they ordane the said sowme to be refoundit bak againe to the maister of hospitall of this burght, at the feast of Witsonday next to cum, togidder with the annuall rent thairof, till the said terme, and yeirlie, and continewallie thairefter, ay and so long as the said princi-

pall sowme happin to be restand awand vnpeyit to the maister of the said hospitall, for the tyme efter the said terme of Witsonday next to cum, and this pressant act to be ane sufficient warrand to the said John for deburseement of the said sowme of ane thowsand merkis to the said Robert Johnestoun. 3rd July, 1622.

5th August, 1622.

Eodem die, venerabilis vir Magister Arthurus Johnestoun, medicine doctor, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

14th August, 1622.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordanis the missiue letter direct to thame from the lordis of his Maiesties privie counsall anent the chuseing of the magistrattis of this burght for the yeir to come, to be registrat in the townes bookes, quhairof the tenour followis: To our traist freyndis, the prowest, and baillies of Abirdein, after our verie hartlie commendationis, by a letter whilk we haue ressauit from the Kingis Maiestie, it hes pleasit his Maiestie to signifie his royall will and pleasour that nane salbe chosin to bear office within the burrowis of this kingdom for this ensewing yeir, bot suche as in all poyntis ar, and wilbe, conforme to the ordouris of the kirk established be the laite Act of Parliament, and we ar commandit to giwe notice heirof vnto you, to the effect that accordingly in your nixt electioun of your magistrattis, you may giwe vnto his Maiestie, satisfactioun; these ar thairfoir to request and desire you, and in his Maiesties name to command you, that at this approacheing tyme of the electioun of your magistrattis, you haue a special cair and regard that nane be preferrit nor chosin to bear office within that burght, bot suche personis as ar, and wilbe, conforme to the saidis ordouris, quhairof, resting assured of your conformitie, as you respect his Maiestie obedience and contentment, and will be ansuerabill vpoun the contrairie at your perrell. We commit you to God, from Edinburgh, the first day of August, 1622, your very good friendis, *et sic subscribitur*, Geo. Cancell, Melros, J. Oliphant.

31st August, 1622.

Eodem die, honorabilis vir dominus Joannes Scot de Scotistarvet, miles vnus dominorum secreti consilii ac director cancellarie, receptus et

31st August, 1622.

admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

24th September, 1622.

Eodem die, Jacobus Grigorie, filius legitimus secundo genitus quondam Jacobi Grigorie, ephippiarii, burgensis de Abirden, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde dicti burgi, &c.

2nd October, 1622.

The quhilk day, it is statute be the prowest, baillies, and counsall, convenit in the counsall hous, gif it sal happin any of thame to be absent frome counsall vpoun the ordinar counsall day at the ordinar hour of meeting, quhilk is Wedinsday everie weik at aucht houris in the morning, immediatlie eftir the ending of the morning prayeris, or at any vther extraordinar tyme when they salbe personallie warnit be ane officer to come to counsall, that the counsallour absent without a lauchfull excuse of seiknes or absence aff the toun, sall pay for ilk dayis absence, quhither it be on the ordinar counsall day, or at any vther extraordinar tyme quhen he salbe lauchfullie warnit, twelff schillingis, money vnforgiwen; and farder, it is statute and ordanit that secreice be keipt of all matteris treated and voted in counsall, so that nane sall oppin nor reveill to any whasoevir, except to a counsallour, what has been ather reasoned or voted be any member of the counsall, bot all suche matteris salbe keipt cloise and secreit, and heirwith the prowest, baillies, haill counsall, and clerkis, hes bund thame selffis be thair sworn aytheis.

6th November, 1622.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, considering the abuse laitlie croppin in within this burghe at buriallis, in that almost at everie buriall of any persone of respect, it is now come in custume that the belman of the auld toune is imployit to go throw the streittis of this burghe with the townes bellman, to giwe warning to the nichtbouris of the towne to keip the buriall, the lyik quhairof is not observeit in any wther burghe of this kingdome; for avoiding of the quhilk abvse, it is ordanit, that in tyme comeing it sall not be tollerat to any, of quhatsumeuir rank or qualitie they be of, to have twa hand bellis going throw the

toun for thair buriall, bot onlie to have the townes commoun bellman, wndir the paine of ten pundis, to be exactit of the contraveinar, but fauour, and payit to the dean gild to the commoun behove of the towne, and intimatioun heirof to be maid to the nichtbouris be the handbell, that nane pretend ignorance thairoff. 6th Nov., 1622.

16*th November*, 1622.

The quhilk day, Paul Mengzes declairit, in presence of the prowest, baillies, and counsell, that thair wes borrowit frome him the yeir bygaine, for the wark of the tolbuith steipill, sex scoir four peice of free aisler stanes, of the heughe of Kynguddies, thairof thrie scoir sevin peice long wark for lintellis and nowellis, and the remanent schort wark for rebbittis; and thairfoir the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordaines alse many alse sufficient frie aisler of the foirsaid heugh of Kynguddie, to be delyuerit to the said Paull on the townes chairges and expenssis, how sone convenientlie they may be gottin transportit, and ordanis the tounes thesaurar to satisfie for the same, and sic as he deburses thairon, to be allowit in his comptis.

27*th November*, 1622.

The samyn day, Mr. Alexander Jaffray, Mr. Mathow Lumisden, Thomas Cargill, Dauid Aidye, George Johnstoun, yonger, George Andersone, and Thomas Gray, ar nominat and chosin visitouris of the haill schooles of this burghe, and to that effect ar ordanit anes at least everie moneth to visite the haill schooles, and to report to the counsall quhair they find any disordour or brak of the injunctiounes, ather be the maisteris or scholeris, that ordour may be put to thame accordinglie.

1*st January*, 1623.

The samyn day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordaines Robert Johnstoune, baillie, maister of wark to the bigging of the tolbuith stepill, to deburse ane hundreth pundis money, to Johne Mylne, mesone in Dundie, to ane compt in pairt of payment of the pryces of the frie aisler and warkmanschip thairof, quhilk he hes vndertane to furneis, and to transport for the vse of the said wark fra Kinguidie to the port and herberie of this burghe, quhilk sowme salbe allowit to the said maister of wark in his comptis.

29th January, 1623.

29th January, 1623.

The quhilk day, anent the petitioune given in to the prowest, baillies, and counsall, be Mr. Willeame Wedderburne, ane of the Regentis of the college of this burghe, in name of Mr. Alexander Wedderburne, his brother, mackand mentioun that the burss fundat be vmquhill Mr. Johne Johnstoune, for ane poore scholar student in divinitie, is now vacant, quhilk being appoyntit for ane of his awin name, or then a burges bairne, it wald thairfoir pleas thair wisdomes, sieing nane of his surname is making sute for the same, to respect the said Mr. Alexander Wedderburne, his brother, quha is now presentlie in England occupiet in a pedagogie, yit being resoluit to sequestrat himselff frome all suche cares, and to tak himselff to the holie studie of divinitie, desyris to be admittit to the said burss for the spaice of four yeiris, conforme to the will of the foundatour, mentionat in his letter will and testament, for the quhilk the said Mr. Alex$^{r.}$ will endevor himselff in all tyme comeing to kyith himselff thankfull to the towne, as for his former burss during his course in philosophie in the college of this burghe, so also for this wther burss during his course in the studie of holie divinitie, that quhatsoeuir benefite of learning he hes, or sall heireftir attaine to, he may acknawlege to hawe it wnder God of the gude toune of Aberdeine, as at mair lenth wes conteinit in the said petitioune; quhairwith the baillies and counsall being advysit, and haveing respect to the said Mr. Alexander, his gude inclinatioune to learning, and the gude prooffis he gave thairoff at his being in the college of this burghe, thay thairfoir, with advyse and consent of Mr. James Ross and Mr. Archibald Blakburne, ministeris of this burghe; Mr. Patrick Dwn, principall of the college thairof, and Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, maister of thair grammer schole, quha, be vertew of the fundatioune hes the pouar of the electioune of the said bursar, and also be advyse of George Johnstoune of that ilk, and Robert Johnstoun of Cremond for thair entres, gives and grantis to the said Mr. Alexander the benefite of the foirsaid burss fundat be the said Mr. Johne Johnstoune, extending to ane hundreth merkis be yeir, and admittis him thairto for the spaice of four yeiris allanerlie, the first yeiris peyment begynnand at Witsonday nixt to cum, in the yeir of God Jaj vi^{c} and twentie-thrie yeiris, provyding alwayis, that during the spaice foirsaid, the said Mr. Alexander take him selff onlie to the studdie of divinitie, and that within the college of Aberdeine, or St. Androis, or out of the cuntrie, as salbe appoyntit be the

prowest, baillies, and counsall of this burghe, quhairin gif the said Mr. Alex^r. failzie, or in any caus (as God forbid,) he mak apostacie in religioune, or deboshe in lyiff or conversatioune, or that he idlie bestow his tyme in the holie course and studie of theologie, in that cais, *ipso facto*, he sall tyne and amitt the said burss, and salbe obleist to refound bak againe the haill benefite quhilk he hes ressauit; to the quhilk, the said Mr. Willeame Wedderburne in name of the said Mr. Alexander, consentit, and agriet, and acceptit of the said burse, with the conditiounes aboue mentionat; lyke as, the saidis Mr. Dauid and Mr. Willeame Wedderburne, become actit cationaris, coniunctlie and seuerallie, for the said Mr. Alexander, thair brother, to refound bak to the town of Aberdeine sic as he sall happin to ressawe be vertew of the said burss, incais he contraveine any of the conditiounes aboue rehearsit, 29th Januar. 1623.

Mr. Archibald Blakburne, minister, consentis. G. Johnson of that ilk.
Patrik Dune, P., consentis. Robert Johnston, consentis.
Mr. Dauid Wedderburne, consentis.
Mr. Willeame Wedderburne.
Mr. James Ross, consentis.

12*th February*, 1623.

The quhilk day, anent the petitioun gevin in to the prowest, baillies, and counsall, be Robert Cunynghame, mackand mentioune that he hes servit in the low cuntries as drummer to ane of the Scottis companies, and haveing returnit hame to his native cuntrie about some of his particular effairis, he wes informed be some of his freyndis and weel willaris that this burghe wes destitute of a drummer, quha hed desyirit him to repair thither for that effect, quhairwpoun he hes addrest him selff hither and offeris his service to this towne befoir any wther in the kingdome, and thairfoir desyris to be admittit thair commoun drummer in plaice of Johne Maitland thair laite drummer, quha hes dimittit his office in the tounes handis, as at mair lenth wes conteinit in the said petitioune; quhairanent the prouest, baillies, and counsall advysing, and haveing seine his testimoniall frome the pairt quhair he wes born, besyid Glasgo, of his bypast honest lyiff and conversatioun, and withall, haveing hard some proffis of his skill and habilitie to be a drummer, thay thairfoir in ane voice, but oppositioune, admittis and resaiwes the said Robert Cunynghame to be commoun drummer of this burght, during the will

12th Feb., 1623.

and plesure of the counsall allanerlie, and na forder, and ordainis him to pass daylie throw the haill streitis of this burghe with the drum, at four houris in the morning, and aucht houris at evin, and to keip and observe the saidis houris preceislie the weather serveing: as lykwayis ordainis him to serve at wappinshawis and musture dayis, and at all wther occasiounes as the toune sal happin to hawe adoe; for the quhilk they ordane him to hawe yeirlie of ilk burges of gild, sex schillingis, and of everie craftisman, four shillingis at the least, to be payit yeirlie at zuill, without restraining any to give him forder of thair liberalitie as they salbe disposed; and the said Robert being personallie present, acceptit the said office in and vpoun him, and promeist, God willing, to dischairge ane honest dewtie thairin, sa lang as the counsall sall suffer him to bruke the same, and as God sould grant him health and habilitie to serve the toune.

14*th February*, 1623.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, settis, and in assedatioun lattis, to Eduard Raban, printer, the tounes new foir hous lyand on the north syid of the Castellgett aboue the meill mercat, for the space of ane yeire, viz., fra Witsonday nixt to cum Jaj. vi^{c}. and tuantie-thrie yearis, quhilk salbe and begyn his entrie thairto till Witsonday nixt thaireftir, in the yeare of God Jaj. vi^{c}. and tuantie-four yearis, reseruand the lauch hous thairof quhair the meill mercat standis for the tounes vse, quhilk is nowayis comprehendit wnder this sett, and that for peyment of the soume of fourtie pundis money to the tounes thesaurer, viz., tuantie pundis at Witsonday nixt at his entrie, and wther tuantie pundis at Martimes nixt thaireftir; lykeas, the said Edward as principall, and Dauid Meluill, burges of this burghe, as cautionar for him, become actit, coniunctlie and seuerallie, to pay the said soume of fourtie pundis to the tounes thesaurer at the termes aboue writtin, and to leave the said foir hous in als gude estate at the said Edwardis removeing thairfra as the samen salbe fund at his entrie thairwith, and for this effect ane inventar is ordanit to be maid at his entrie of the haill plenischeing within the said hous, and the said Eduard become actit to releive his said cautionar.

Eodem die.

The quhilk day, the haill towne, alse weill frie as wnfrie, being warnit

to this day be the handbell, quhairon the berar maid faith, and conveinand for the maist pairt within the tolbuithe, it wes exponit to thame be George Nicolsone, prowest, that divers and sundrie complaintis hes beine maid to the magistrattis and counsall of this burghe, be certane persones duelling within the fredome and about the same, that thair is suche a great number of mastishe and cur doggis within this burghe, quha nichtlie wyrries and devouris thair sheip in great quantities, to thair great hurt, skaith, and domage, besides that it is a note of incivilitie to hawe and hold within a civill burghe sic a number of doggis: for restraining of the quhilk abvse, and preventing of suche domage and skaith heireftir, the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, with consent of the haill communitie, conveinit as said is, all in ane voice, statute and ordainit, that quhatsumeuir nichtbour or inhabitant within this burghe, sal hawe or keip any mastishe or cur doggis within the samen, or fredome thairof in tyme comeing, eftir the twentie-fyfte of Februar instant, sall pay to the deane of gild ane vnlaw of fourtie pundis wnforgiwen, and also, salbe haldin to pey sic domage and skaith as salbe verefiet to be done be wirrieing of sheip within ony pairt of the fredome of this burghe in ony tyme heireftir, and ordanis this statute to be intimate be the drum throu the haill strettis of the town that nane pretend ignorance thairoff. 14th Feb., 1623.

12th March, 1623.

The samen day, it is thocht meit and expedient, statute and ordainit, be the prouest, baillies, and counsall, that, according to the decent custume obseruit in the principall burghtis of this kingdome, everie magistrat and counsallor sall repair to the tounes counsal hous at all occasiounes whan the counsall sittis, with honest gownes about thame, as being the most comelie wtter garment, and that on the Sabboth day lyikwayis, and on the preicheing dayis in the weik they sall sitt in thair gownes in the kirk, and this ordour to begin and tak effect betuixt the dait heirof and Witsonday nixt to cum, and so to continew in all tyme thaireftir.

2nd April, 1623.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall, considering that the edifice of the grammer schole of this burghe is become very ruynous and liklie to fall and decay, and is nather watterthicht nor wyndthicht to the great hinderance of the studentis within the same, quhilk being a com-

2nd April, 1623.

moun wark quhairwnto speciall regard sould be had, both for educatioune of the youth and studentis within the same, and for the credite of the towne, thairfoir ordainis the said schole to be biggit, beitit, and repairit in substantious and honest maner in all convenient diligence, and to be jeasted, lofted, and sklaited sufficientlie and substantiallie as afferis, and nominatis and appointis George Andersone, maister of kirk wark of this burghe, to be maister of wark to the bigging and repairing of the said schole, whome they ordaine to agrie with the stane leaderis to cary and lead stanes thairunto, and to furneis all wther materiallis necessar for the wark, be advyise of Thomas Cargill, and ordainis the tounis thesaurar to deburse sic 'soumes of money as salbe requisite for the wark, both for bying of materiallis and conduceing of craftismen thairwnto, out of the rediest of the money mortifiet be wmquhill Doctour Cargill for the vse of the said wark, and gif the money sall not be sufficient to do the wark, the rest to be furneist be the thesaurer out of the tounes commoun gude, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

9th April, 1623.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, nominatis and chuses Thomas Colinsone, baillie, commissionar for this burghe, for keiping of the meeting of the bischops and commissionaris of the kirk at Sanct Androis the 22 day of Apryill instant, and thair the said Thomas to deall as commissionar for this burghe for the transplantatioune of Mr. Alexander Henrysone, minister at Lewcharis, from his ministrie thair, and to purches warrand for his plantatioune heir to be ane of the ordinar ministeris of this burghe, in place of Doctour Forbes, quha wes transported heirfra to Edinburgh, and ordainis ane commissioune to be given to the said Thomas for this effect in deu forme as effeiris, and as for his expenss, ordainis him to tack of the redyest of the taxatioune in his handis, and sic as he debursis thairof to be refoundit back againe be Robert Alexander, thesaurar, quhilk salbe allowit to him in his comptis.

29th April, 1623.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall ordaines Robert Alexander, thesaurer, to deburse twa doubill angellis to be given to Mr. Thomas Nicolsone, advocat, and a fyue merk peice to John Dunlop, his servand, for the said Mr. Thomas his consultatioune gevin to the toune

in thair commoun effairis, quhilk they consulted with him since his late comeing to this burghe; and siclyke, ordainis Alexander Jaffray, deane of gilde, to deburse fourtie merkis to Johne Black, wricht in Dundie, for his charges and expenssis in cumeing heir to this burghe, and returning back, being send for to advyse with him anent the tymber wark of the tolbuith steipill, quhilkis soumes salbe allowit to the said thesaurer and deane of gild in thair comptis. 29th April, 1623.

27*th May*, 1623.

Mr. John Gregory, minister at Drumoak, is served heir to his father James Gregory, saddler, and burgess of Aberdein.

12*th June*, 1623.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, eftir dew tryell and advyisement, findis and declaris, that whairas any nichtbour or inhabitant of this burghe, or ony vther persone or persones whatsoeuir, that hes gottin licence to putt thair names or armes on any glassin windo of the kirk of this burghe, that that persone or persones wha hes gottin the said licence, hes gottin the same on conditioune, to putt wp the haill glas of that windo on thair awin chargis and expenss; as lyikwayis findis, in cais the said windo hes decayit be storm of weather, or lang traick of tyme, that the wpputter thairoff, his airis, successouris, or freyndis, that wald hawe the said windo reedifiet, and the foirsaid name and armes put wp in the same, sall reedifie and put wp the said windo on thair awin charges and expenss, quhilk gif they refus to do, ordains the maister of kirk wark to put wp the said glassin wyndo on the townis charges without any name or armes thairon, except it be the Kingis armes or the tounes; lykeas they ordainit, in cais the freyndis of vmquhill Johne Alexander, factor in Camphear, quha on his charges pat wp the glase of the east gavell windo of the new kirk, refuis to reedifie and put wp the said wyndo againe on thair awin charges and expenss, the samen being now be the space of ane year since alltogidder decayit and demolished be storme of weather, that the maister of kirk wark sall do the samen on the tounes chairges, without puting any monument of the said Johne Alshinouris name or names thairin, according to the custume formarlie obserueit in the lyik caices in all tyme bygaine.

12th June, 1623.

The said day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, haweand considderatioune, that Maister Willeame Guild, minister at the kirk of Kingeduard, sone lauchfull to Mathow Guild, armourar, burges of this burghe, hes bocht and conquest on his awin proper charges, a foir hous frome Johne Merser, saidler, befoir the Grayfrier kirk of this burghe, quhilk hous the said Mr. Willeame declairis he will mortifie and dedicat frielie to the toune in all convenient diligence, to the effect, that they mack a fair and commodious entrie to the college of this burghe, and to the Grayfrier kirk; thairfoir, in regard of the said Mr. Willeame, his liberall and charitabill dispositioune, in macking conquest of the said foir hous, to be mortifiet to the toune for the vse aboue specifeit, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, to animate wtheris to the lyik charitie, and liberalitie to the college, promittis to the said Mr. Willeame, within the space of yearis, that they sall big the said entrie on the tounes charges with aisler wark, and to big a stationaris chop at the said entrie, the maill quhairof the said Mr. Willeame dedicatis to the toune perpetuallie in tyme comeing, for defraying of the charges in bigging the said entrie sa far as the same may extend to.

25th June, 1623.

The quhilk day, anent the petitioune given in to the prowest, baillies, and counsall, be Alexander Gray, sone to vmquhill [ ] Gray, burges of this burghe, mackand mentioun, that quhair be deceas of vmquhill Mr. Richard Ross, lait reidar of the paroche kirk of this burghe, quha deceassit the nynt of Junij instant, the plaice and office is now vacand at thair wisdomes gift and dispositioune, and sieing the said Alexander is a burges sone, and hes beine serveing the toune these tuelf yeires bygaine as occasioune offered, and as God gave him grace, he most humblie offeris himselff to spend the rest of his dayes to serve the haill toune, in plaice of the defunct, as God sall assist him be His grace and Holie Spirit, and thairfoir desyired to admitt him thairto, as at mair lenth wes conteinit in the said petitioune; quhilk being red in counsall, and thay thairwith being ryiplie advyised, and haveand considderatioune that the said Alexander hes suppliet the plaice obefoir, baith during the tyme of the said Mr. Richardis seiknes, and at sindrie vther occasiounes quhan he wes absent out of the toune, and thairby hes gevin pruiff of his

qualificatioune, and with all, haveand respect to the said Alexander, his gude lyiff and conversatioune, quha hitherto hes leived without any blame or publict offence; thairfor the saidis prowest, baillies, and counsall, all in ane voce, admittis and receaves the said Alexander Gray to be reidar in the paroche kirk of this burghe, in plaice of the said vmquhill Richard, induring the will and plesure of the counsall of this burghe allanerlie, and no forder, and ordainis him to hawe fourscoir merkis of yeirlie stipend, to be payit to him be the thesaurar of this burghe at Witsonday and Mertimes be equall portionis, the first termes payment to begyn at Martimes nixt to cum, in this instant yeir of God, Jaj vi^c and tuantie-thrie yeares, with sex pundis threttene shillingis four pence out of the sessioune of the kirk of this burghe, quhilk is the stipend that the said vmquhill Mr. Richard wes in vse to gett of befoire; and siclyke grantis libertie to the said Alexander to hald and teache ane Inglische schole, and grantis to him ane of the tounes commoune housses besyid the musick schole, to be his duelling hous and schole, during the will and plesour of the counsall, as said is; quhilk office and functioune the said Alexander acceptit in and wpoun him, for the yearelie stipend and wther benefite aboue mentioned, and promeist to discharge himselff dewtifullie thairin, as God sould inabill him be His grace, and to attend thairon both morning and evening, and at all wther occasiounes neidfull, and that he sall not withdraw him selff thairfra, nor dimitt the said office unles befoir his dimissioune he adverteis the prowest, baillies, and counsall, dewlie as effeiris, be the spaice of thrie monethes, to the effect thay may provyd ane wther to supplie the rowme in dew tyme. 25th June, 1623.

2nd July, 1623.

Quo die, Magister Gulielmus Johnstoune, medicine doctor, receptus et admissus fuit in liberum burgensem et fratrem gilde burgi de Abirden, &c.

15th July, 1623.

The quhilk day, the richt worschipfull Thomas Best, capitane of one of his Maiesties schippis callit the Garland, lyand for the present in the raid of Aberdeine, and admirall in the present commissioun grantit be his Maiestie for convoying one of the King of Spaynes schippes lyand in the herberie of Aberdeine from thence towardis Dunkirk;

15th July, 1623.

Eduard Christiane, capitane of ane wther of his Maiesties schippis, lyand also at the present in the raid of Aberdeine, callit the Bonaventure, and vice-admirall in the said commissioune ;

Nicholas Kempt, capitane of ane of the Holland waughteris callit the Tyning of Camphear, lyand at the present in the said herberie of Aberdeine, attending the said Spanische ship ;

Jan Simon Wanhuissen, capitane of ane wther of the Holland waughteris callit the Greyne Dragon of Amsterdam, lyand also in the said herberie of Aberdeine ;

Wer all admittit frie gild burgesses of the burghe of Aberdeine, and receaved in the corporatioune of Bon-Accord, who gaue thair aithes in maner wndirwrittin, to witt, that thay and ilk ane of thame salbe leall and trew to our most gratious souerane, James, be the grace of God, King of Great Britane, France, and Ireland, defendar of the faith, &c., his heires and successouris, to the burgesses and commvnitie of the burghe of Aberdeine, that they sall giwe wnto thame thair trew and upricht counsall whan the same salbe askit, and sall manteane and defend, at the wttermost of his powar, their treddis and liberties to thair lyves end : So help thame God.

30*th July*, 1623.

The samen day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall appoyntis Mononday the allevint day of August nixt, for ryiding of the tounes wtter marches of thair fredome and commoun landis ; and siclyke, appointis Mononday thaireftir, the auchtene day of the said moneth of August, for halding a publict wappinschaw of all the inhabitantis of this burgh, both frie and vnfrie, wha ar ordanit to be chargeit to come sufficientlie armeit with corslatt, pik, and muskat, and ilk persone to give his aithe that the armour he bringis with him belongis to himselff ; and with certificatioune to sic as sallbe absent, or being present sall not be sufficiently armed and mak faith the armour they bear belongis to themselffis, that they sall incur the vnlaw of ten pundis, to be payit to the deane of gilde without fauor, and employit vpoun the commoun effairis of this burghe, and ordanis intimatioune to be maid of both the saidis dyettis be the drum throw the haill streitis of the toune, that nane pretend ignorance thairof.

29*th August*, 1623.

Quo die, nobilis et potens dominus, Joannes Comes de Rothes ; dominus

Leslie et Barbreich, etc.; Robertus Leslie de Bomedie; Joannes Leslie; Jacobus Aittoun; Jacobus Browne et Thomas Murray, seruitores dicti comitis; et Jacobus Leslie, filius legitimus secundo genitus Joannis Leslie de Petcappill; recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses burgi de Abirden, &c. 29th August, 1623.

1*st October*, 1623.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and counsall being conveinit in the counsal hous, and haveand consideratioun that the toune standis in great necessitie at the present of a third minister to fill wp the vacand rowme of Mr. Williame Forbes, quha is transportit to Edinburgh, thinkis it meit and expedient that the magistrattis deall with the Bischop of Aberdein for his advyise and concurrance in trying out of the worthiest man may be had for filling wp the said vacand rowme, and for giveing ordour for his plantatioune heir, with sic convenient diligence as the same may be gottin done, and as they proceid in the bussines, ordainis thame to make report of the succes of thair travellis to the counsall; as lyikwayes, inrespect sindrie complaintis hes bene maid on the maisteris of scholes of this burghe for thair slaknes in discipline, in that the scholaris ar not keipit in gude ordour as they aucht to be, bot ar sufferit to debord and vaig without controlment, to the sclander of the towne, and to the great hurt and detriment of the youth, thairfoir ordainis the haill maisteris of scholes to be warnit to compeir befoir the counsall this day aucht dayis, that tryall may be tackin how they keip the iniunctiounis set doun to thame both in doctrine and discipline, and whair any defect salbe fund, that they be censured accordinglie.

20*th October*, 1623.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, haveing this day receaved suire adverteisment that our hopefull Prince, Charles, his Maiesties deare and onlie sone is hapilie returnit (all praise be given to God) frome Spayne, quhair he hes remainit these sevin or aucht monethis bygaine; thairfoir, inrespect of these gude tydingis, ordainis to signifie and divulgat the same to the haill people, that all the inhabitantis of this burghe may praise God for his saiff and happie returne; and for this effect, ordainis the toune to be warnit be sound of trumpet at the croce, and be the drumme passand throw the haill streitis of the towne, to

20th Oct., 1623. assemble thamselffis instantlie in thair paroche kirk, and thair to give thankis and prais to God for the said glad tydingis, and eftir ending of the exhortatioun, ordainis bone fyiris to be put on throw all the streitis of the toun, the haill bellis to ring, the croce to be deckit and hung, twa peice of wyne, ane of quhyt and ane wther of claret, to be rwn thairat, with the succour and spyce in abundance, a number of glassis to be cassin, and the haill youthis of the toune to tak thair muskattis and accompanye thair magistrattis throw the haill rewis of the toun, pass the tyme schuiting thair muskatis till it be nicht, and all godlie mirrienes and pastyme vseit that may expres the joy and gladnes of the hartis of the people, and ordainis the deane of gild and thesaurer to furneis wyne, succour, and glassis, to the erand foirsaid, as is aboue devyised, and the expenss to be debursit thairon, the counsall ordainis to be allowit to thame in thair comptis.

19*th November*, 1623.

The prowest, baillies, and counsall, ordainis George Rikard, thesaurer, to give ane angell to Eduard Raban, printer, for recompence of his paines and labouris in printing fourscoir copies of the edict for the professour of mathematicques, quhilk is appointit to be serveit to the first day of Januar nixt to cum, to be payit be the said thesaurer out of the profite of the moneyis mortifeit to the said professour, quhilk salbe allowit to the said thesaurer in his comptis.

18*th February*, 1624.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, considdering the great abuse laitlie croppin in within this burghe, be macking and haweing of superflous and costlie banquetting at the baptizeing of bairnes, and be convocating of great numberis of people, both men and wemen, thairwnto, and haveing and vseing all sort of succouris, confectiounes, spyceries, and desert, brocht frome forane pairtis, besyid great superfluitie of vennisone, and wyld meat of all sortis, expreslie prohibited be his Maiestie's lawes and actis of Parliament, and withall, vseing of excessive and extraordinarie drinking and scolling, to the offence of God, the hurt of mennis bodies and goodes, and bringing in of evill example to the sclander of the toune, namelie, in sic a calamitous tyme whan as God is visiteing the whole land with darth and famyne, and mony poore anes

dieing and starveing at dyikkes and wndir staires for cauld and hunger; for repressing and stancheing of the quhilk abuse and disordour, it is statute and ordainit, that no inhabitant within this burghe of quhatsoeuir rank, qualitie, or degrie they be of, sall at any tyme heireftir invite any mae persones to be gossippis or cummeris to any of thair bairnes, bot four gossippis, and four cummeris at the maist, and that thair salbe bot sex wemen at the maist invited, or employed to convoy the bairne to and fra the kirk, nather yit sall thairbe any mae persones invited to any denner, supper, or eftirnoones drink at a baptisme, bot sex men and sex wemen at the most; and withall, ordanis, that nane presume to hawe at thair banquettis any kynd of succouris, spyceries, droggis, or confectiounes brocht frome pairtis beyond sea, nather yit any kynd of wyld meat, or bakin meat at thair baptismes, nor yit to wse at any tyme any excessive drinking or scolling, or to vrge thair nichtbouris to waught or scole farder nor thair plesour,, wnder the paine of fourtie pundis money, to be incurrit be ilk persone contravenand in any of the poyntis aboue prohibited, *toties quoties*, and to be payit to the deane of gild, and applyed wpoun the tounes commoun effairis, and ordainis this act to be intimat publictlie frome pulpitt in both the kirkis of this burghe, that nane pretend ignorance thairof. 18th Feb., 1624.

22*nd April*, 1624.

Quo die, nobilis et potens dominus, Joannes comes de Sutherland, dominus de Strathnaver, et Gilbertus Mengzes de Petfoddellis, filius legitimus et heres quondam Gilberti Mengzes de Petfoddellis, burgensis de Aberden;

Magister Jacobus Elphingstoune de Barnes; Joannes Gordoun de Embo; Magister Joannes Gray, minister verbi Dei apud ecclesiam de Dornoch; Magister Gilbertus Gordoune; Gilbertus Gordoune; Gulielmus Sinclar et Adamus Smith, servi nobilis et potentis domini Joannis comitis de Sutherland; Alexander Elphingstoune, servus dicti Magistri Jacobi Elphingstoune; Robertus Gairdyne de Tilliquhroskie; Gilbertus Gairdyne, eius filius; Georgius Gairdyne, frater germanus dicti Roberti, et Alexander Burnet de Clunye; Gilbertus Mengzes, filius legitimus primo genitus quondam Dauidis Mengzes de Easter Tilburies burgensis de Aberden; Thomas Mengzes, filius vnicus legitimus quondam Roberti Mengzes de Bogholl, olim balliui ac burgensis dicti burgi; Georgius

22nd April, 1624. Gareauch, filius legitimus quondam Roberti Gareache, et Joannes Gray, filius germanus quondam Joannis Gray, burgensis eiusdem; Alexander Gairdyn, filius legitimus primogenitus quondam Arthuri Gardyn de Banchorie; et Gulielmus Lowthian, servus honorabilis viri Gilberti Mengzes de Petfoddellis; recepti et admissi fuerunt in liberos burgenses burgi de Abirden, &c.

21*st July*, 1624.

The prouest, bailies, and counsall findis that his Maiesties commoun wayis entering to this burgh at all pairtis of the samen, viz., at the Bowbrig, betuixt the same and the Justice Mylnes, at the Woolmanhill, the Gallowgett Port, the Justice Port, Castelhill, and buttis on the northsyid thairof, and alse, at the tymber lairis on the southsyid of the Castelhill, ar filthillie polluted with great numberis of middingis and fulzie laid thairwpone, quhairbie, not onlie is the saidis wayis and passages niddreit and preiudgeit to the hurt of his Maiestie's lieges resorting to and fra this burgh, bot also, the saidis passages ar maid so filthie and wncleane be the saidis middingis, that in tyme of weit weather, those that passes be the samen ar spoyled with dub and fulzie, and the cornes growand about in sundrie pairtis ar tred wnder fute, and distroyit be the passingeris to the great hurt of the awnares of these cornes, and of his Maiestie's lieges, also, to the sclander of the toune for suffering suche abuse, and thairfoir, ordainis intimatioun to be maid generallie be the hand bell throu the haill streittis of the toune, as also, particularlie be the tounes officiares to all these that layis middingis at any of the pairtis aboue mentioned; that they remove the saidis middingis within ten dayis eftir the said intimatioune, with certificatioune to these that sall disobey in not removeing thair middingis within the space foirsaid, that the samen salbe confiscat and led away to the tounes vse, and the awnares thairof, to be lykwayis vnlawit and punisched for thair contempt and disobedience at the will of the magistrattis and counsall.

20*th October*, 1624.

The quhilk day, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, haweand considderatioune, that the humanitie lessoun that hes beine teached these few yeiris bygaine in the college of this burghe, be Maister Dauid Wedderburne, maister of the tounes grammer schole, hes beine verie hurtfull

and preiudiciall to the said grammer schole, in that be occasioune thairof, the said Mr. Dauid hes beine distracted frome that cair and sollicitude quhilk he sould hawe had over his scholares, both in doctrine and discipline, and many greiffis hath beine giwen in both to burghe and land for the disordour of the said schole, and neglect of dewtie in the maister both in doctrine and discipline; and withall, haveand consideratiouue, that the said humanitie lecture wes appoyntit to endure bot during the will and plesour of the counsall of this burghe allanerlie, and to be dischargeit againe be thame as they fand it expedient, thairfoir, and inregard of the preiudice sustaned be the said grammer schole throu the said humanitie lecture, the prowest, baillies, and counsall, discharges the said Mr. Dauid Wedderburne of all farder teacheing any humanitie within the said college in tyme comeing, and ordainis him to attend on the said grammer schole as his peculiar charge; lykeas, they discharge the thesaurar of this burghe present and to come, of all payment or answering the said Mr. Dauid of any stipend or dewtie for the said humanitie lecture in any tyme heireftir. Persones of counsall present: Paull Mengses, prouest, Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, late prowest, Alexander Jaffray, Gilbert Cullen, Mr. Johne Mortimer, Thomas Colinsoune, baillies; Williame Gray, Henrie Forbes, Mr. Alexander Jaffray, Alexander Chalmers, Robert Alexander, Dauid Aidye, Androw Huntar, George Mengses, Thomas Gray, Johne Liddell, cowpar. 20th October, 1624.

1st December, 1624.

The quhilk day, the prouest, baillies, and councell haveand consideratioun that the soume of sex thowsand merkis money left be vmquill Mr. Thomas Reid, secretar to his maiestie, for the latine tongue, for mantenance of a bibliothecane to attend and keip his librarie of bookes quhilkis he left to the college of this burghe, is appointit be his letter will and testament to be employit on annuallent, and the annuall rent thairof to accrese with the stock til the samen amont to siche a soume of money as may mack purches of land and heretage within this burghe or shireffdome of Abirdene, extending in yeirlie rent to the soume of sex hundreth merkis, quhilk legacie of sex thowsand merkis is not yet payit be the executouris of the said vmquhill Mr. Thomas, and whan the samen salbe peyit and employed on bank to the vse foirsaid, it will craive a long tract of tyme befoir the same with the profites accresce to suche proportioune of money

1st Dec., 1624.

as will purchas heretage extending in yearelie rent to sex hundreth merkis, and withall considdering if the saidis buikis sall ly still in drywairis during all this interim, not onlie sall the most pairt of thame moch and conswme bot lyikwayis the clergie of the towne and college salbe defraudit of the vse and benefite of the saidis buikis for a long spaice of tyme to the great preiudice both of kirk and commoun weell; for remeid quhairof, and to the effect the saidis bookes may be employed to the proper vse quhairvnto they ar destinat be the defunct, it is thocht meit and expedient be the prouest, baillies, and counsall that the saidis haill bookes and manuscriptis salbe transported frome the keyheid out of the sellar quhair they ar lyand for the present, in hogheids to the college of this burghe, and thair set wp in the college librarie be catologue and inventar, prouyding that Mr. Patrick Dwn, principall of the said college, giue his band to the counsall of this burghe to mack thame all extant and furthcummand, and for redelyuerie thairof back againe conforme to the said catologue, howsone he salbe requyred be the counsall to that effect, and observeand sic iniunctiounes tuicheing the keiping and preservatioune of the saidis bookes as salbe prescryved to him be the counsall; and the said Mr. Patrick, being personallie present, is content to accept the custodie of the saidis bookes, and to give his band to mack thame extant and furthcummand, and for delyverie thairof back againe conforme to the catologue quhan he salbe requyred; lykeas, for this effect, Alexander Chalmer, deane of gild, is ordainit to repair the wyndowes of the college librarie, and to give thame plett irne stensheounes for the greater securitie; and the charges to be deburst be him thairwpoune, the counsall ordainis to be allowit to him in his comptis.

8th December, 1624.

The said day, anent the missiue direct be the Lord Marqueis of Huntlie to the prouest, baillies, and counsall of this burghe, mackand mentioune that he hes wndirtane the bigging of ane brig ower the watter of Bogye, and macking of ane levell kairt way from Doverne to Spey, quhilk wilbe most stedibill to the haill cuntrie, and will stand to great charges and expenss, requesting thairfoir the counsall of this burghe to extend thair helpis to this necessar wark, and to giue his lordship certificatioune quhat salbe expected frome thame, as at mair lenth wes conteinit in the said missive, dated at Huntlie the third day of December instant, quhairanent

the prouest, baillies, and counsall advysing, they find the foirsaid wark to be verie necessar for the whole cuntrie, and thairfoir they ar content to contribute the soume of ane hundreth pundis money for the help thairof howsone the wark salbe begun. Persones of counsall present: Paull Mengses, prouest; Mr. Dauid Rutherfurd, lait prouest; Alexander Jaffray, Gilbert Cullen, Mr. Johne Mortimer, Thomas Colinsone, baillies; Mr. Alexander Cullen, William Gray, Henrie Forbes, Mr. Alexander Jaffray, Alexander Chalmer, William Forbes, Alexander Rutherfurd, Thomas Cargill, George Andersone, Johne Hay, Dauid Aidye, George Mengses, Thomas Gray, John Liddell, Thomas Clerk. 8th Dec., 1624.

16*th February*, 1625.

The quilk day, in presence of the prouest, baillies, and counsall compeirit Robert Fergusone, burges of this burghe, and presented vnto thame ane bell, new and stockit, quhilk he frielie gevis and mortifies for the vse of the grammer schole of this burghe in all tyme comeing; lykeas, he promeissis on his awin chargis to caus big a belhous of aisler wark on the said grammer schole, and to put wp the said bell thairin, to serve for the vse of the said schole in all tyme heirefter, quhairwpoun the counsall ordanis a note to be maid in the tounes bookes to be a perpetuall memoriall to the posteritie of the said Robert his beneficence foirsaid to the said grammer schole.

INDEX.

INDEX.

ABELL, Robert, 70, 71.
Abercorne, Lord James, 260.
Abercrombie, Patrik, grome of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Abercrummy, Mr. George, Commissary of Aberdeen, 170, 171.
Aberdene, Mathow, Bischop of, 199.
Abircrombie, George, seruitor to Lord Gordon, 364.
Abircrommy, Johne, in Auld Rayne, 335, 338, 344.
Abircromy, Mr. Johnne, 4.
Abirdein, Dauid, Bischop of, 79, 175, 194, 195, 196, 197, 199, 200.
Abirdein, William, Bischop of, 4.
Abirdeine, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, *et passim.*
Abirdene, Auld, 94, 116, 198, 199, 200, 252, 295.
Achnoull, Laird of, 65.
Adye, Dauid, 248, 360, 362, 367, 379, 393, 395.
Aidie, Mr. Androw, Principall of Marischal College, 346, 361, 370.
Air, 83, 375.
Alexander I., King of Scotland, 279, 280, 284.
Alexander, Johne, factor in Camphear, 385.
Alexander, Robert, thesaurer, 358, 359, 362, 384, 393.
Andersone, Mr. George, thesaurer, 120, 125, 128, 136, 139, 141, 144, 146, 147, 384.
Andersone, James, seruitor to Lord Gordon, 362.
Andersoun, Alexander, thesaurer, 317, 360.
Andersoun, Johnn, Master of the Sang Scuill, 60.
Andersoun, Michaell, Poist, 166.
Andersoune, Dauid, 13, 30, 47, 64, 65, 66, 114, 117, 125, 128, 136, 182, 187, 195, 198, 207, 218, 235, 239, 240, 247, 267, 283, 284, 285, 299, 301.
Androwis, Sanct, 84, 166, 273, 280, 289, 326, 347, 349, 365, 380, 384.
Anguss, Erl of, 92.
Annand, Patrik, son to the Laird of Ochterellon, 185.
Anstruther, Estir, 83.
Anstruther, Westir, 83.
Arbrotht, 84.
Arbuthnot, Mr. Alex., Minister of Abirdeine, 39.
Arbuthnot, James, of Lentusche, 282.
Ardlar, 64.
Ardlogye, Laird of, 357.
Ardune, Laird of, 335, 338.
Argyill, Collyne, Erle of, 35, 37.
Armestrang, Archibald, 353.
Atholl, John, Erle of, 4, 256.
Auchincleche, 324.
Auchindoir, Craig of, 366.
Auchindoun, Laird of, 15, 16, 92, 362.
Auchinlek, Mr. Andro, 129.
Auchinleyth, 365.
Auchmakoy, Laird of, 185.
Auchmull, 325.
Auchmutie, James, grome of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Auldbar, Laird of, 97.

BAILLIE, Alester, of Dachfour, 362.

Bairnis, Gilbert, Sacristar, 117, 156, 202, 217.
Balcarchis, Laird of, 159.
Balcomie, Laird of, 260.
Balfour, James, fear of Pettullo, 240, 241.
Balfour, Sir Michaell, of Burlie, Knycht, 240, 241.
Ballendeyne, Patrick, of Stenhouse in Orknay, 6.
Balmerinoch, James, Lord, 260.
Balmoir, Laird of, 248, 249.
Balnacraig, Laird of, 310.
Balnagask, Laird of, 311.
Balquhyne, Laird of, 63, 64, 111.
Balvenie, Laird of, 364.
Banchorie Devynnik, Laird of, 121, 122, 392.
Banff, 83, 199, 230, 233, 296.
Bannatyn, Mr. James, 65.
Bannatyn, Mr. Patrik, 65.
Bannatyne, Sir Lowes of Auchnoull, Knycht, Justice Clark, 65.
Barbour, Patrik, 235.
Barclay, Sir James, 22.
Barclay, Mr. Willeam, Aduocat, 199.
Barnes, Laird of, 391.
Barra, 366.
Beldewy, Laird of, 311, 344.
Best, Thomas, capitane of the Garland, 387.
Birroun, in Norrouay, 6.
Birsmoir, Laird of, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319.
Birss, 82.
Blair, Laird of, 121, 364.
Blak, Johnn, Master of the Sang Scuill, 60.
Blak, Schir Johnne, 22, 29.
Blakburne, Mr. Archibald, Minister, 349, 370, 371, 380, 381.
Blakburne, Mr. Peter, Minister, 46, 58, 79, 104, 118, 146, 188, 194, 195, 196, 208.
Blantyir, Walter, Priour of, 95, 97, 98, 260.
Bogholl, Laird of, 391.
Bogye, Watter of, 394.
Bomedie, Laird of, 389.
Borrowstounnes, 225.
Boswall, James, servitour to Sir Robert Melvill, 106.
Brechin, 68, 83.
Breddiauche, 324.
Brotherfeild, 324.
Bruntiland, 84.
Buckisburne, 325.
Burnet, Alexander, de Clunye, 391
Burnet, Thomas, of Leys, 364.
Burnet, Mr. Thomas, son of Burnet of Sluie, 171.
Burnett, Alex., of Leys, 170.
Burnett, Mr. Alex., servitour to Lord Lindsay, 100.

Cabrastoun, 325.
Cairnis, Johne, of Cults, 106.
Caithnes, 230, 233, 296.
Caithnes, George, Bischop of, 260.
Caleis, 91, 92.
Camphear, 385.
Cant, Walter, 130.
Capristoun, 111, 120.
Cargill, Dauid, 61, 77, 81, 104, 109, 115, 117, *et passim.*
Cargill, Dr. James, 331, 332, 333, 334, 384.
Cargill, Mr. Thomas, Maister of the Grammer Schuill, 38, 58, 59, 90, 91, 195, 222, 223, 224, 246, 384.
Carmichael, James, sone to Sir Johne Carmichaell of that Ilk, Knicht, 106.
Carmichaell, Schir Johne, of that Ilk, Knicht, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 106, 123.
Carmichaell, William, of Rollintriecroce, 106.
Carmychall, Mr. Williame, Maister of the Grammer Schuill, 24, 33, 38.
Carnegie, Mr. Dauid, of Calluthy, 97, 98.
Carnegy, Sir Dauid of Kynnaird, Knycht, 260.
Carnes, Laird of, 22.
Caskiben, 206.
Castell, Dauid, 48.
Castell, Johnne, 64.

Cathnes, Alexander, Bischop of, 349.
Cauldveld, Richard, Groom of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Cesfurde, Laird of, 57.
Chalmer, Alexander, 56, 65, 127, 129, 193, 194.
Chalmer, Gilbert, 191, 194.
Chalmer, James, "ane of his Maiesties Domestickis," 236.
Chalmer, Johne, son to Mr. George Chalmer, Minister at Dumbennan, 365.
Chalmer, Mr. Robert, 127, 130, 131.
Chalmer, Willeame, son to the Laird of Balnacraig, 310.
Chalmeris, Doctour, Phisitian to his Maiestie, 352.
Charterhous, Prior of, 241.
Chein, Patrik, of Essilmounth, 172, 173.
Cheyne, James, of Straloch, 252, 253.
Cheyne, Mr. Johnne, 61, 92, 119, 141, 146, 151, 180, 181, 193.
Cheyne, Mr. Patrick, 128, 136, 147, 151, 153, 173, 191, 193, 194, 195, 227.
Christiane, Eduard, Capitane of the Bonaventure, 388.
Clementsounn, Guttroun, Induellar in Birroun in Norrouay, 6.
Clerk, Williame, Preist, 242.
Clunye, Laird of, 193, 198, 199, 309, 310, 311, 312, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 391.
Clyde, 295.
Cokburne, Sir Johne, of Ormistoun, Knycht, 260.
Cokburne, Sir Richard, apperand of Clerkingtoun, 97.
Coldenknowis, Laird of, 260.
Collairlie, Laird of, 311.
Collessoune, Johnne, 67, 94, 99, 105, 107, 125, 126, 128, 135, 141, 146, 193, 198.
Collesoune, Schir Johnne, 22.
Collielaw, 322.
Collisoun, Gilbert, 9, 13, 21.
Cormellie, 365.
Corsinday, Laird of, 248.
Corss, Waster, Laird of, 357.
Couper Fyf, 289.
Cowbairdie, Laird of, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318.
Cowlie, Laird of, 8, 11, 12.
Cowper, 84.
Cowye, William, 74, 75.
Crabstoune, Laird of, 325.
Crage, Mr. Johnne, Minister of Abirdeine, 24, 30, 33, 46.
Craibstoune, 16.
Craig, Mr. Thomas, Aduocat, 258, 260.
Craill, 83.
Cranstounriddel, Laird of, 98.
Creichtone, Sir James, of Frendracht, 69.
Cremond, Laird of, 380.
Creychie, Laird of, 282.
Cromartie, 230, 233, 296.
Crukschank, Alexander, 104, 125, 128, 164, 235, 240, 242, 349.
Cullen, 84.
Cullen, Alexander, 13, 65, 68, *et passim.*
Cullen, Walter, Publict Reidar, 20, 31, 45, 129.
Culross, 83, 139, 261.
Cults, Laird of, 309, 310, 311, 312, 334, 338.
Cuming, Johnn, Noter, 59.
Cummyng, Alexander, of Culter, 323, 324.
Cummyng, Hew, son to the late Alexander Cummyng of Culter, 309, 310, 311, 312.
Cuninghame, Mr. Dauid, Bischop of Abirdene, 120.
Cunnyghame, William, of Cunnyghameheid, 363.
Curriehill, Laird of, 260, 329, 357.

Dalgarnocht, Gilbert, in Egy, 4, 5.
Danskyn, 30, 216, 229, 234, 285.
Dauid, Kyng of Scotland, 279, 284.
Dauidson, Patrik, Maister of the Sang School, 298, 314, 359.

Dauidsoun, Alexander, "Tymber-man in Sanct Androis," 280, 281.
Dayala, Sir Philip, Counsalour to the King of Spane, 192.
Dee, 26, 58, 72, 112, 115, 174.
Dee, Brig of, 52, 53, 56, 121, 155, 156, 161, 254, 265, 274, 287, 322.
Deir, 68.
Denmark, 59, 67.
Done, 58, 112, 115, 174, 325, 345.
Done, Brige of, 265, 266, 268, 271, 275.
Donypace, Laird of, 106.
Dorne, Laird of, 65, 67, 117, 121, 122, 125, 128, 135, 138, 141, 143, 147, 148, 193, 194, 198, 240, 241, 243.
Dornoch, 391.
Douglas, Mariorie, Lady of Rawinscraig, 21, 22.
Douglas, Robert, sone to Douglas of Mayns, 106.
Doverne, 394.
Drumbreck, House of, 250, 256.
Drummoak, 274.
Drummond, Maister Johne, 364.
Dudop, Laird of, 260.
Dumbartan, 83, 140, 211, 212, 295.
Dumbennan, 365.
Dumfermeling, Erle of, *see Fyvie, Lord.*
Dumfermling, 83.
Dumfress, 83, 163, 294.
Dundie, 43, 50, 68, 76, 83, *et passim*
Dun, Johne, Servitour to Sir Robert Melvill, 106.
Dunkirk, 387.
Dunbar, 83, 245.
Dunnottar, 6.
Dunwidye, Laird of, 57.
Dwn, Mr Patrick, Principal of Marischal Colledge, 375, 380, 381, 394.
Dwn, William, Dean of Gild, 147, 153, 155, 156, 225, 242.
Dyce, 204, 309, 312.
Dysert, 84.

EDINBURGHT, 6, 10, 17, 26, 37, *et passsim.*
Elgein, 84, 104, 105, 230, 233, 296.
Elphingstoun, Bischop Willeam, 198.
Elphingstoune, Mr. James of Barnes, 391.
Elphinstoun, Alexander, Lord, 256, 260.
Embo, Laird of, 389.
Erith, 352.
Erroll, Francis, Erl of, High Constable of Scotland, 92, 108, 159, 260.
Essilmounth, Laird of, 172, 173.

FAITHLIE, [Fraserburgh], 10, 32, 243, 279, 280, 284, 336, 337.
Falkland, 190.
Farquharsone, Robert, son to Johne Farquharsone of Invercauld, 311.
Ferme, Mr. Charlis, 180.
Ferrehill, Laird of, 30.
Ferryhill, 227, 236.
Fintray, 206.
Flanderis, 50, 216, 252, 283, 345.
Fleming, Lord, 4.
Forbes, Alexander, of Towie, 353.
Forbes, Alexander, sone to Alexander Forbes of Feingzes, 311.
Forbes, Captain Arthur, brother of Bishop Patrick Forbes, 369.
Forbes, Maister Duncan, of Balnagask, 311.
Forbes, George and Thomas, sons of William Forbes of Tolquhon, 364.
Forbes, James, of Tulliboy, 79, 80.
Forbes, Mr. James, brother of Forbes of Corsinday, 248, 249.
Forbes, Mr. John, brother of the Bishop of Aberdeen, 370.
Forbes, Mr. John, son of Bishop Forbes, 371.
Forbes, Johne, Lord, 115, 249.
Forbes, Johnne, son to the Pryoir of Monymusk, 310.
Forbes, Patrick, Bishop of Aberdeen, 370.
Forbes, William, of Corse, son of the Bishop of Aberdeen, 371.
Forbes, William, son of William Forbes, one of the Ministers of Aberdeen, 374.
Forbes, William, of Tolquhone, 170.

Forbes, Mr. Willeame, Doctour in Divinitie, 370, 371, 384, 389.
Forbes, Mr. Willeame, Minister at Monymusk, 347, 348, 351.
Forfar, 68, 83.
Forres, 84, 230, 233, 296.
Foullis, Laird of, 362.
Fowlis, Mr. Dauid, Secretar Deput, 100, 101.
Fraser, Alexander, of Techmurie, 362.
Fraser, Sir Alexander, of Philorthe, Knycht, 279.
Fraser, Andro, of Stonyvod, 151, 152.
Fraser, Gilbert, of Wattertown, 133.
Fraser, Simon, Lord of Lovett, 362.
Fraser, Sir Simon, of Inverallachie, Knycht, 362.
Fraser, Thomas, brother of Andro Fraser of Stanyvod, 248, 249.
Fraser, Thomas, of Shethine, 364.
Frendracht, Laird of, 69.
Freynd, Johne, Sergeant at Armes to his Maiestie, 352.
Frosterhill, 183.
Futtie, 70, 74, 75, 153, 172, 183, 184, 187, 202, 209, 210, 216, 217, 218, 226, 248, 305, 359.
Fynnie, Thomas, 86, 121.
Fyvie, Alexander, Lord, President of the College of Justice, 159, 169, 171, 260, 364.

Gairdyne, 324.
Gairdyne, Robert, of Tilliquhroskie, 391.
Gardyn, George, of Banchorie, 121, 122.
Gareauche, Alexander, son of James Gareauche of Kinstair, 371.
Gastoun, Laird of, 362.
Geneva, 262, 271, 272.
George, Sir Theobald, Gentillmane Isher of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Gerard, Sir Thomas, Barronet, and Gentillman of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Gibson, Johne, Notar Publict 320.
Gibsoun, Mr. Alexander, one of the Clerks of Council and Session, 171.
Gicht, Bog of, 72, 73.
Gilcomstoun, 33, 236.
Gladismuire, 19.
Glammis, Patrik, Lord, 260.
Glasgow, 83, 95, 96, 97, 98, 225, 294, 365, 381.
Glasgow, Johne, Archbischop of, 260.
Glencairne, James, Erll of, 260.
Glentanner, 82.
Gordone, Adame, Kepar of the Tolbuith and Gray Freiris Knokis, 272
Gordone, Mr. James, 91, 92, 101.
Gordone, Johne, alias Williamsone, "a manifest and oppin witche," 144, 145.
Gordonis Mylne, 236.
Gordoun, Adam, of Park, 357.
Gordoun, Adame, of Auchindoun, 15, 16, 362.
Gordoun, Alexander, sone to James Gordoune of Lesmoir, 309, 310, 311, 312.
Gordoun, apperand of Karnburrow, 173.
Gordoun, Henry, of Cultis, 363.
Gordoun, John, of Ardlogye, 357.
Gordoun, John, of Embo, 389.
Gordoun, Johne, of Bogis, 199.
Gordoun, Johne, of Crabstoune, 325.
Gordoun, Johne, Eldar of Craig of Auchindoir, 366.
Gordoun, Johne, Seruitor to Lord Gordoun, 364.
Gordoun, Johne, son to the Marquis of Huntlie, 362.
Gordoun, Johne, of Tullielt, 201.
Gordoun, Johnne, of Kynmoundie, 35.
Gordoun, Laurence, son to the Marquis of Huntlie, 362.
Gordoun, Mr Patrick, 316.
Gordoun, Sir Robert, Tutor of Sutherland, 363
Gordoun, Sir Thomas, of Clunye, Knicht, 193, 198, 199.
Gordoun, Willeame, Bischop of Aberdene, 320.
Gordoune, Alexander, of Cluny, 309, 311, 312, 317, 318, 319.

Gordoune, Alexander, sone to Mr. Willeame Gordoune of Tulligreig, Commissar of Murray, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312.
Gordoune, Alexander, Younger at Kethokismylne, 313.
Gordoune, George, brother to the Laird of Cluny, 310.
Gordoune, Mr. Gilbert, 391.
Gordoune, James, of Haddocht, 8.
Gordoune, Johnne, brother to Patrick Gordoune, of Birsmoir, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319.
Gordoune, Patrick, of Birsmoir, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319.
Gordoune, Thomas, brother to the Laird of Cluny, 310.
Gorine, Sir George, Lieutenant to his Maiesties Pensionaris, 352.
Gowrie, Erll of, 219, 220, 222, 228, 363.
Grant, Angous, Serviture to the Laird of Cluny, 315, 316.
Gray, Alexander, Reidar, 386, 387.
Gray, Mr. Gilbert, Principall of the Marischal Colledge, 194, 195, 327, 328.
Gray, Mr. John, Minister of Dornoch, 391.
Gregory, James, Saddler and Burgess of Aberdein, 385.
Gregory, Mr. John, Minister at Drumoak, 385.
Grier, Mr. George, Minister, 188, 194.
Guild, Mathow, Armorar, 43, 138, 386.
Guthrie, Gilbert, "Merchemond Herald," 46.
Guthrie, Younger, Gilbert, Messinger, 72, 133, 142, 159, 242, 291.
Guild, Mr. Willeame, Minister at Kingeduard, 386.

Haddocht, Laird of, 8.
Hadingtoun, 19, 83.
Halyrudehouss, 18, 68, 99, 108, 131, 178, 179, 205, 206, 221.
Hammell, Charlis, Maister of the Schip Esperance, of Caleis, 91, 92.
Hammiltoun, 234.
Hammiltoun, Sir Thomas, of Symmo, Knycht, 260.
Harthill, Laird of, 282, 283, 335, 338, 344.
Hay, Alexander, of Eister Kennett, Clerk of Registre, 19, 65, 97, 98, 345.
Henrysone, Mr. Alexander, Minister at Lewcharis, 384.
Herauld Ila, Servand to the Erle of Dumfermeling, 364.
Hessilheid, 323.
Hill, Adame, Page of his Maiesties Bed Chalmer, 352.
Home, Sir Johne, of Coldenknowis, Knycht, 260.
Houston, Laird of, 260.
Howesoune, Martein, 7, 147, 161.
Howye, Mr. Robert, minister, 164, 166, 188, 194, 195, 196, 204.
Hume, Alexander, of Northberwik, 95, 97, 99.
Hume, Sir G., of Spott, 95, 97, 99.
Huntlie, George, Erle of, 7, 15, 16, 19, 72, 92, 101, 108, 175, 177, 202, 206, 355.
Huntlie, Marquis of, 192, 228, 229, 265.

Inglis, Andro, "commoun swescheman," 163, 235.
Innerkeithing, 83.
Innes, Beroald, in Auld Abirdene, 94.
Innes, Johnne, sone to the Laird of Cults, 309, 310, 311, 312.
Innes, Patrick, servitour to the Clerk of Register, 100, 101.
Innes, Robert, of Balvenie, 364.
Inuernes, 84, 229, 230, 233, 296, 311.
Inverallachie, Laird of, 362.
Invercauld, Laird of, 311.
Irving, Alexander, son to Willeame Irving in the Hirne, 311.
Irving, James, of the Kirktown of Straquhan, 365.
Irving, Johnne, son to Gilbert Irving of Collairlie, 310.

Irving, Robert, in Cormellie, 365.
Irwyng, 83.
Irwing, Mr. Alexander, Advocate, 119, 199, 226.
Irwyng, Mr. Richard, 81, 110, 125, 126, 128, 147, 195, 253, 276.

Jak, William, Maister of Sant Thomas Hospitall, 39, 129.
James II., 279.
James IV., 186, 198, 279.
James VI., 13, 34, 95, 98, 99, 101, 108, 159, 190, 219, 231, 243, 255, 259, 269, 353.
Jedburght, 83.
Johnestoun, Gilbert, Violar, 106.
Johnestoun, Maister Johne, 166, 380.
Johnestoune, Mr. Arthur, Doctor of Medicine, 377.
Johnstoune, George, of that Ilk, 380, 381.
Johnstoun, Robert, of Cremond, 380.
Johnstoun, Mr. Thomas, 249, 370.
Jowsie, Robert, Merchand Burges of Edinburgh, 94, 95, 96, 99.
Justice, Johne, Executioner, 150, 151.

Kar, James, Factor and Procurator for Collyne, Erll of Argyill, 37.
Kar, William, of Cesfurde, Knycht, 57.
Karnburrow, Laird of, 173.
Kempt, Nicholas, Capitane of the Tyning of Camphear, 388.
Kennedy, Mr. John, Maister of Sanct Thomas Hospital, 28.
Kennedy, Johne, Constabill, 187.
Kennedy, Mr. Johnne, Town Clerk, 21, 22, 32, 33, 50, 58, 65, 66, 121, 180, 182, 183.
Kennett, Eister, Laird of, 97.
Ker, James, brother to Robert, Erle of Louthian, 362.
Kethackis Mylne, 236.
Keyth, Alexander, of Balmoir, 248, 249,
Keyth, Alexander, in Glasco, 248.
Keyth, Willeam, of Ludquharne, 172, 173.
Keytht, Alexander, of Carnes, 22.
Kilrynny, 84.
King, Robert, in Auchinleyth, 365, 366.
Kingeduard, 386.
Kinguiddie, 342, 376, 379.
Kinkairdyn, 273.
Kinstair, Laird of, 371.
Kintaill, Coline, Lord, 363.
Kintyir, 211.
Kircaldie, 84.
Kirkcowbrycht, 83.
Kithiebrouster, 326.
Knichtlie, Francis, one of his Maiesties Coupberaris, 352.
Kyng, Androw, 30, 87, 131.
Kyngorne, 84, 211, 213, 214.
Kynmondie, 324.
Kynnaird, Laird of, 260.
Kyntor, 174.

Lanerk, 83.
Lawder, 83.
Lawrenstoun, Laird of, 260.
Leidis, Sir Johne, Gentillmane Isher of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Leirmonth, Sir Johne, of Balcomie, Knycht, 260.
Leisk, Mr. Williame, Minister of Abirdeine, 57, 58.
Leith, Johne, son of Harthill, 282, 283, 335, 338, 344.
Leith, Johne, Younger of Harthill, 282, 283.
Leithe, Patrick, Armorar, 40, 44, 121.
Lennox, Ludouick, Duke of, 104, 105, 106, 107, 175, 331, 361, 362, 363.
Lentusche, Laird of, 282.
Leslie, George, of Auld Craig, 282.
Leslie, George, of Creychie, 282, 283.
Leslie, Gilbert, Maister of the Writting Scuill, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319.
Leslie, Mr. Gawin, Channoun of the Cathedrall Kirk of Rowen in France, 192.
Leslie, James, son of John Leslie of Petcappill, 389.
Leslie, Johne, of Pittcappill, 282.
Leslie, Johne, of Wardess, 282, 364.

Leslie, Robert, of Bomedie, 389.
Leslye, Andro, Portar of the College, 150.
Leslye, Johne, Bischop of Ross, 192.
Leslye, Johne, Younger, of New Leslye, 192, 193.
Leslye, Johnne, of Balquhyne, 111, 112.
Leslye, Patrick, possessour of the handbell, 94.
Leslye, Mr. Thomas, 56, 181, 182.
Lesmoir, Laird of, 309, 310, 311, 312.
Levingstoun, Alexander, Lord, 362.
Levingstoun, Sir James, brother of Lord Levingstoun, 362.
Levingstoun, Mr. Thomas, 106.
Levingstoune, Willeam, Servitour to the Laird of Dunypace, 106.
Lewcharis, 384.
Lewis, The, 204, 229, 230, 231, 233, 234.
Leys, Laird of, 170, 364.
Leyth, Willeame, of Ardune, 335, 338, 344.
Liddell, Mr. Duncan, Doctor of Phisick, 364.
Lindsay, Sir Dauid, of the Mount, Knicht, Lyoun King of Armis, 159.
Lindsay, Mr. Johne, of Balcarchis, 159.
Lindsay, Lord, 100.
Lindsay, Mr. Walter, 125.
Lithgow, Alexander, Erll of, 260.
London, 189, 190, 191, 278, 327.
Loquhaber, 137.
Lovett, Lord, 362.
Lowthian, Robert, Erle of, 362.
Ludquharne, Laird of, 172.
Lumisden, Christane, relict of umquhill Johnne Gordoun of Kynmoundie, 35.
Lummysden, Mr. Mathew, 368, 375, 379.
Lyoun, Sir Thomas, of Auldbar, Knicht, 95, 97, 98.
Lynlithco, 83, 131, 189, 190, 191.

Makgill, Mr. Dauid, of Cranstounriddel, 98.
Mackintoische, Lauchlan, 72.
Mackintosche, Sir Lachlane, of Torphestoun, Knycht, 362.
Malcome, King of Scotland, 199.
Mar, Dauid, Baillye, 4, 157, 162.
Markham, Sir Griffin, 242.
Maroco, 33.
Maxwell, Robert, of Dunwidye, Knycht, 57.
Maxwell, Robert, Sergeant at Armes to his Maiestie, 352.
Meldrum, Laird of, 363.
Meldrum, Sir Dauid, of Segye, Knicht, 106.
Melros, 377.
Meluill, Dauid, Burges, 382.
Meluill, Sir Robert, of Murdocarney, Knycht, 260.
Melvill, Mr. Andro, Minister, 166.
Melvill, Sir Robert, Clerk Registre, 95, 97, 98, 106, 107.
Melvill, Mr. Thomas, Minister at Dyce, 309, 312.
Mengzeis, Dauid, Prowest, 264, 268, 272.
Mengzes, Mr. Eduard, 22.
Mengzes, Gilbert, Baillye, 6, 8, 11, 12.
Mengzes, Gilbert, of Petfoddellis, 391.
Mengzes, Gilbert, of Petfoddellis, Provest of Abirdeine, 37, 52, 54, 59, 60, 119, 151, 323.
Mengzes, Gilbert, son of the late Dauid Mengzes, of Easter Tilburies, 391.
Mengzes, Patrick, of Ferrehill, 30
Mengzes, Paull, Baillie, 235, 240, 288, 338, 344, 357, 358, 370, 375, 379, 393, 394.
Mengzes, Thomas, son of Robert Mengzes of Bogholl, 391.
Mengzes, Thomas, of Petfoddellis, Prouest of Aberdeine, 7, 18, 22, 193, 195, 198.
Mengzies, Mr. Thomas, of Dorne, Prouest of Abirdeine, 65, 67, 117, 118, 121, 122, 125, 128, 135, 136, 138, 139, 141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 193, 194, 195, 240, 241, 243.
Merschaell, Covntes of, 178, 180.
Merschell, Erll, Grytt Merschall of Scotland, 68, 72, 79, 119, 126, 159,

173, 180, 248, 253, 260, 324, 326, 370.
Methlik, 201.
Mitchell, Mr. Thomas, Minister of Vdny, 371.
Mollisone, Mr. Thomas, Town Clerk of Abirdein, 100, 120, 121, 139, 152, 157, 158, 159, 162, 170, 180, 181, 182, 186, 195, 202, 206, 233, 234, 284, 301, 344.
Montroiss, 68, 84, 90, 289, 296.
Montrois, Johne, Earle of, Lord Chancellor of Scotland, 95, 97, 98, 256, 260, 285.
Monro, Robert, of Foullis, 362.
Monymusk, 310, 347.
Moresone, Alexander, Servant to the Marquis of Huntly, 355.
Mortoun, James, Erll of, Regent of Scotland, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.
Mounie, Laird of, 171, 331, 364.
Moysie, Dauid, Secretar Deput to the King, 106.
Muchall, 324.
Murdocarnie, Laird of, 97, 106, 260.
Murthill, Baronie of, 199, 323.
Murray, Francis, brother to the Laird of Cowbairdie, 314, 315, 316.
Murray, James, Erll of, Regent of Scotland, 8, 101.
Murray, James, son to the Laird of Cowbairdie, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319.
Myddiltoun, Mr. George, Baillye, 4, 6. 28.

Narne, 84, 230, 233, 296.
Nesbit, Henrye, 47, 260.
Nesmyth, Arthure, Seruitor to the Marquis of Huntly, 362.
Nesmyth, Johne, 100.
Newbotle, Laird of, 95.
Newburght, 10, 81, 243.
Newhillis, Laird of, 344.
Nicolsoun, Maister Thomas, 240.
Nicolsoun, Mr. Thomas, Commissar of Aberdene, 252, 253, 264, 326, 384.
Nisbeth, Johne, 139.
Norie, Alexander, sone to vmquhill Willeame Norie of that Ilk, 311.
Norie, William, 163.
Norrouay, 6, 81.
Northberick, Laird of, 97.

Ochiltrie, 256.
Ogilvy, James, son to Willeame Ogilvy of Baldewy, 311, 344.
Ogilwie, Johne, 364.
Ogilwie, Willeame, Servand to Willeae Settoun of Meldrum, 363.
Oliphant, Mr. Willeame, Adwocat, 280.
Ord, 324.
Orknay, Lord, 186.
Orkney, 230, 233.
Ormistoun, Laird of, 260.

Pacok, George, Chirurgian, 218.
Paip, Mr. Johne, Wretar to the Signet, 206.
Parbroith, Laird of, 95, 97, 98, 364.
Park, Laird of, 357.
Pantoun, Alexander, 368, 370, 375.
Peblis, 83.
Pertht, 43, 50, 76, 83, 90, 140, 152, 255, 257, 270, 287, 289, 295.
Petfechie, Laird of, 193.
Petfoddellis, Laird of, 7, 18, 22, 37, 60, 151, 323, 391.
Petirheid, 10, 32, 243.
Petirsoun, Matheus, induellar in Birroun, in Norrouay, 6.
Petmedden, 364.
Phillortht, Laird of, 10, 243, 279, 280, 284.
Phinevin, Johnne, teicher, 49.
Pinridok, Sir Thomas, one of his Maiesties Sellaris, 352.
Pittinweyme, 84.
Prestoun, Mr. Quintine, Professor of Phisick, 144.
Prestoun, Richard, Capitane of his Maiesties hous, 190, 191.
Prestounpannis, 245.
Prymrois, Duncane, Sergeant Chirurgian to his Maiestie, 352.

Prymrois, James, Clerk of Secreit Consall, 257, 315.
Pyiper, George, 358.

QUHYTE, Johne, Servand to the Erle of Dumfermeling, 364.
Quhytherne, 83.

RABAN, Edward, printer, 382, 390.
Rait, Mr. Dauid, Principall of the Colledge of Auld Aberdene, 194.
Ramsay, Mr. Andro, Minister at Edinburght, 370.
Ramsay, Williame, son to the Laird of Poltoun, 6.
Ranfrew, 83.
Rathsay, 83.
Ray, Edward, esquyer, one of his Maiesties body, 352.
Rayne, Auld, 282, 331, 335, 338.
Reid, James, Minister at Banchory Trinitie, 171.
Reid, Mr. Thomas, Maister of the Grammer School, 223, Secretary to his Majesty, 393.
Reid, Mr. Willeam, 106.
Ritche, Sir Edward, one of the Gentillmen of his Maiesties Privie Chalmer, 352.
Robert, Kyng of Scotland, 279.
Robertsone, Dauid, 94, 114, 272, 297, 298.
Robertsoune, Sir Alexander, 130.
Rollintriecroce, Laird of, 106.
Ros, Dauid, Bischop of, 260.
Rosmarkie, 296.
Ross, Mr. James, Minister at Strathauchyn and Aberdene, 195, 196, 197, 299, 370, 374, 375, 380, 381.
Ross, Mr. Johne, 96.
Ross, Mr. Richard, reidar, 386, 387.
Rothes, John, Earl of, 388.
Roxburght, Robert, Lord, 260.
Rubislaw, 323.
Rubislaw, Laird of, 165, 172.
Rutherfurd, Alexander, 35, 38, 46, 59, 65, 72, *et passim*.
Rutherfuird, Mr. Dauid, 65, 121, 125, 128, 135, 136, 141, 195, 248, 299, 301, 329, 338, 344, 349, 357, 368, 370, 372, 375, 393.
Ruthtghelin, 83.
Ruthven, 273.
Ruthven, Mr. William, 106.

SANDERSOUN, Johnne, callit Laird Sandersoun, 6.
Scharp, Mr. Johne, adwocat, 258, 260.
Scone, Dauid, Lord, 260.
Scot, John, of Scotistarvet, 377.
Scrymgeor, Sir James, of Dudop, Knycht, 260.
Segye, Laird of, 106.
Selkirk, 83.
Setoun, Sir Dauid, of Parbroith, 95, 96, 97, 98.
Setoun, William, of Blair, 121.
Settoun, Alexander, Lord of Fyvie and Urquhart, 170.
Settoun, Alexr., brither to Willeam Settoun of Blair, 171, 364.
Settoun, Dauid, brither to the Laird of Parbroth, 364.
Settoun, James, brither to the gudeman of Mowny, 364.
Settoun, John, servant of Lord Fyvie, 171.
Settoun, Mr Johne, servand to the Erle of Dumfermeling, 364.
Settoun, Willeame, of Meldrum, 363.
Settoun, William, of Mounie, 171, 331.
Sheythine, Laird of, 364.
Skene, Mr. Johne, Clerk of Register, 159, 175, 258; Sir John, 260.
Skene, Mr. Willeam, Maister of the Sang School, 157, 174.
Skene, William, 183, 184, 187, 224, 225.
Skeyne, Alexander, of Skene, 329.
Skeyne, Mr. Alexander, 4, 26, 27.
Skeyne, Mr. Andrew, 329.
Skeyne, Mr. James, of Waster Corse, 357.
Skeyne, Sir James, of Currihill, 329, 330, 363.

Skeyne, Laurence, son of Mr. Patrick Skeyne, 364.
Skene, Mr. Patrik, 149, 194, 195, 369.
Skeyne, Thomas, son of Sir James Skeyne, of Curriehill, 363.
Smyth, Sir Thomas, Governer to the East India Company.
Smytht, Johnne, dempster, 44, 51.
Sorrett, Johne, clerk of Culross, 139.
Spittell, 227.
Spencer, George, esquyer, one of his Maiesties carveris, 352.
Spey, 394.
Spott, Laird of, 97.
Stanehyue, 342.
Stanyood, Laird of, 151, 248.
Starcovius, ane German, 316.
Stenhouss in Orknay, 6.
Stephaine, Thomas, coupberar extraordinar to his Maiestie, 352.
Stewart, Thomas, of Gastoun, 362.
Stockett, Forest of, 198, 199, 200.
Straloch, Laird of, 252, 253.
Stranauer, 233.
Strathauchin, George, 6, 71, 107, 128, 141, 143, 146, 155, 156, 176.
Strathbogye, 93.
Straquhan, 365.
Strattoun, Sir Alex., of Laurenstown, Knycht, 260.
Striuiling, 35, 83.
Sutherland, 233, 296.
Sutherland, John, Earl of, 391.
Symsoune, James, Doctour of the Sang Scuill, 29.

Tain, 296.
Tarves, 201.
Techmurie, Laird of, 362.
Telin, 273.
Thirlestane, Johne, Lord Chancellor of James VI., 97.
Tilburies, Easter, Laird of, 391.
Tilleangus, 16.
Tilliboy, Laird of, 79.
Tippertie, Laird of, 243.
Tod, James, redar, 116, 198, 202.
Tolquhone, Laird of, 170, 364.
Torry, 75, 94, 126.
Torphestoun, Laird of, 362.
Towie, 353.
Tullidaff, Johne, elder, burgess, 4.
Tullielt, laird of, 201.
Tulligreig, Laird of, 310, 312.
Tulliquhroskie, Laird of, 391.

Vaus, Alexander, 344.
Vrrie, Johnne, 194.
Vrquhart, Marjorye, 226.
Vrquhart, Willeam, 129.

Walkar, Schir Wilyeam, 22, 50, 51.
Wanhuissen, Ian, Simon, capitane of the Greyne Dragon of Amsterdam, 388.
Wardess, Laird of, 282, 364.
Watsoun, William, preist, 242.
Wedderburne, Mr. Alexr., Commoun Clerk of Dundy, 261.
Wedderburne, Mr. Dauid, Maister of the Grammer School, 223, 224, 225, 238, 239, 244, 246, 247, 262, 266, 264, 298, 314, 327, 328, 359, 363, 367, 368, 371, 375, 376, 380, 381, 390, 393.
Wedderburne, Mr. Willeame, Doctour of the Grammer Schoole, 353, 354, 371, 380, 381.
Welsche, Nathaniel, sone to the late Mr. Johne Walsche, minister at Ayr, 375, 376.
Whithall, 259.
Wigtoun, 83.
Wilsoun, Alexr., chirurgian, 218.
Wittertoun, Laird of, 133.
Wolffinmuler, Johne, Apothecarie to his Maiestie, 353.
Wynrame, James, 99, 100, 139.

Yester, Johne, Lord, 363.
Young Christane, 31.

Zetland, 233.

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